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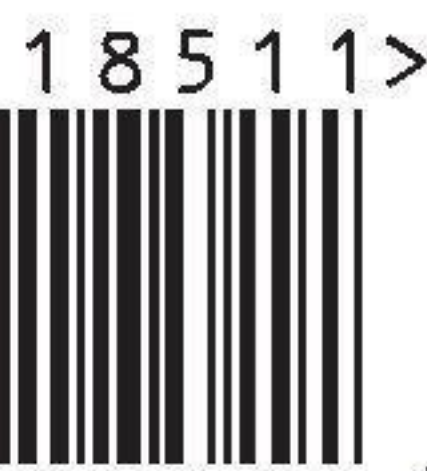
SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG



Tracy
Yardley
SENSEN

DIRECT EDITION



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Mogul RISING

Part One: NEEDFUL THINGS

I'M--SORRY.
I'VE BEEN A JERK.
TO YOU. TO A
LOT OF
PEOPLE.

I'VE HAD IT ROUGH FOR
A LONG TIME, Y'KNOW?
MINA MAKES ME FORGET
ABOUT THE BAD TIMES.
I GUESS I OVERREACTED
WHEN I THOUGHT YOU'D
HURT HER...OR TAKE
HER AWAY FROM ME.

WHICH IS
SILLY.

...YEAH.

DON'T SWEAT
IT, MAN. I'VE
BEEN A BIT OF A
JERK, TOO, AT
TIMES.*

NO
JOKE.

AA-
AASH, BE
NICE.

*WHICH LED
TO THE
THROW-
DOWN IN
STH #178-
179...
REMEMBER
?

I'M GONNA
GO GET THE BAND
SETTLED. I'LL
LEAVE YOU TO
THE HERO.
LATER.

UMM...
LATER.

'BYE,
SWEETIE!

ALL RIGHT, SONIC!
I CAN SEE NEW
MOBOTROPOLIS ANY TIME.
I WANT YOU TO SHOW
ME EVERYTHING ELSE!

"STARTING WITH WHAT WE LOST..."

THIS IS ALL THAT'S LEFT OF KNOTHOLE!?

ROBOTNIK WAS THOROUGH.*

AT THE VERY LEAST, THE GREAT FOREST IS STILL STANDING.

*DURING THE CATACLYSM IN STH # 175.

I THINK--I THINK THIS USED TO BE MY HOUSE. IT'S HARD TO TELL WITH EVERYTHING GONE.

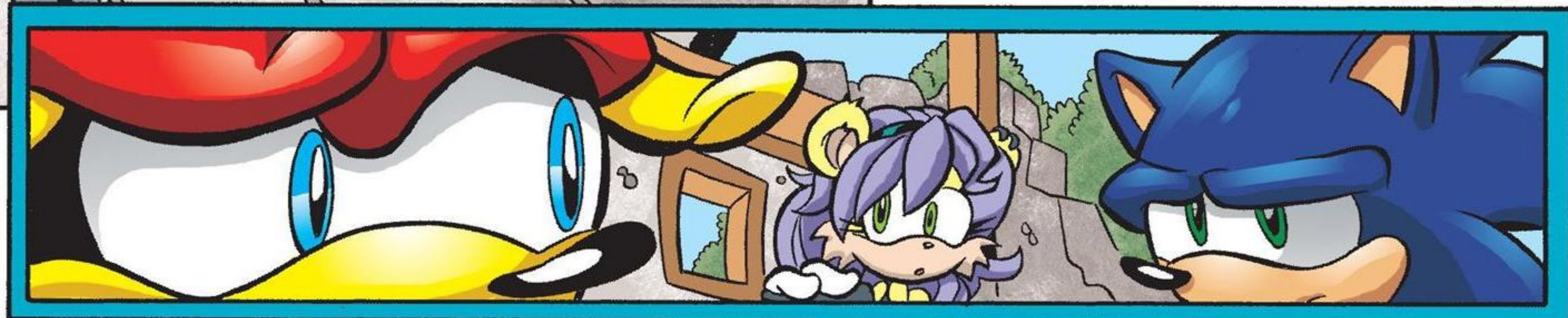
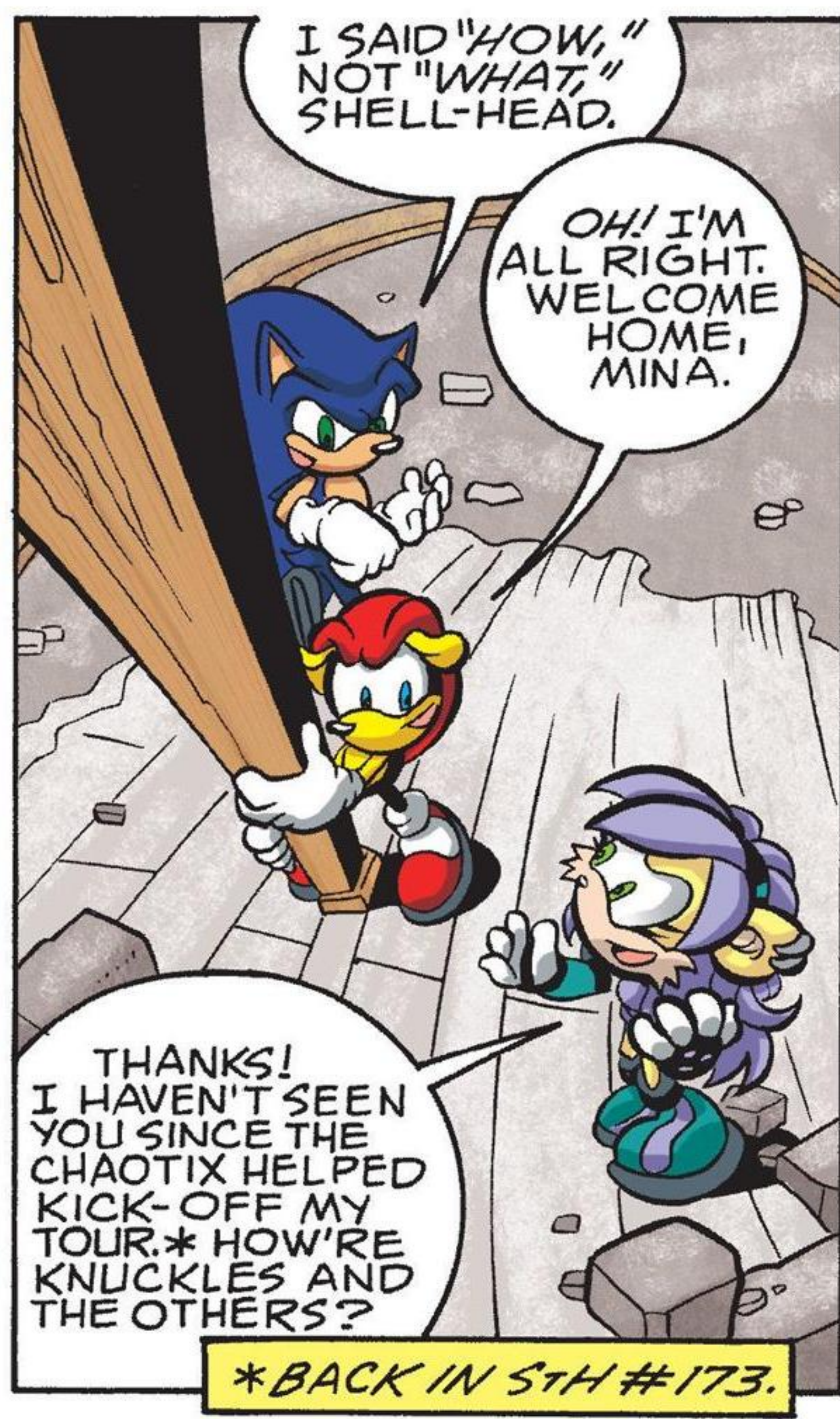
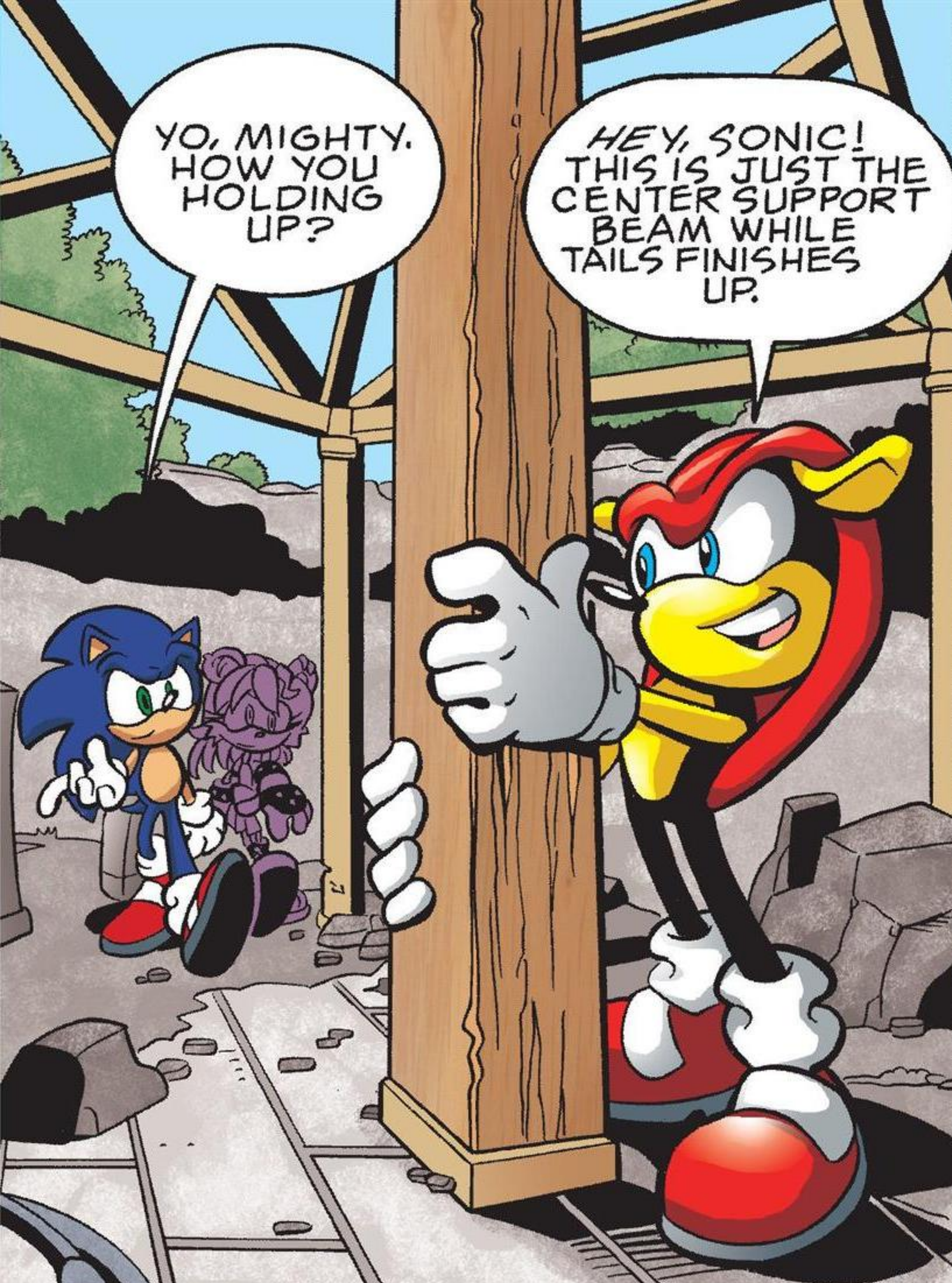
WHEN I TOOK MY SHOW ON TOUR, I WANTED TO RALLY THE WORLD TO UNIFY AGAINST THE EGGMAN EMPIRE. WHEN WE HEARD ABOUT KNOTHOLE, I WROTE A SONG ABOUT IT. I TRIED TO WRITE SOMETHING THAT'D BE A FITTING TRIBUTE. SEEING THIS--I DON'T KNOW IF I COULD EVER DO IT JUSTICE.

YOU'LL HAVE TO SING IT FOR US AND LET US BE THE JUDGE. C'MON. NOT EVERYTHING WAS LEVELED.

OH, WOW! I MAY NOT BE A FREEDOM FIGHTER, BUT IT'S SO NICE TO SEE FREEDOM HQ IS STILL STANDING.

FOR THE MOST PART. WE'VE STILL GOT A ROOM FOR YOU AND ASH.

REALLY?!





YOU CAN LET GO, MIGHTY. I'M DONE. OH, HEY, SONIC! HEY, MINA!

MY MAN!

HEYA, TAILS. MAN-O-MAN...

...YOU LEAVE ON ONE LITTLE CONCERT TOUR AND THE WORLD CHANGES.



NEXT THING YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME IS THAT YOU TWO ARE FIGHTING OR SOMETHING.

US? FIGHT? NEVER! PERISH THE THOUGHT!

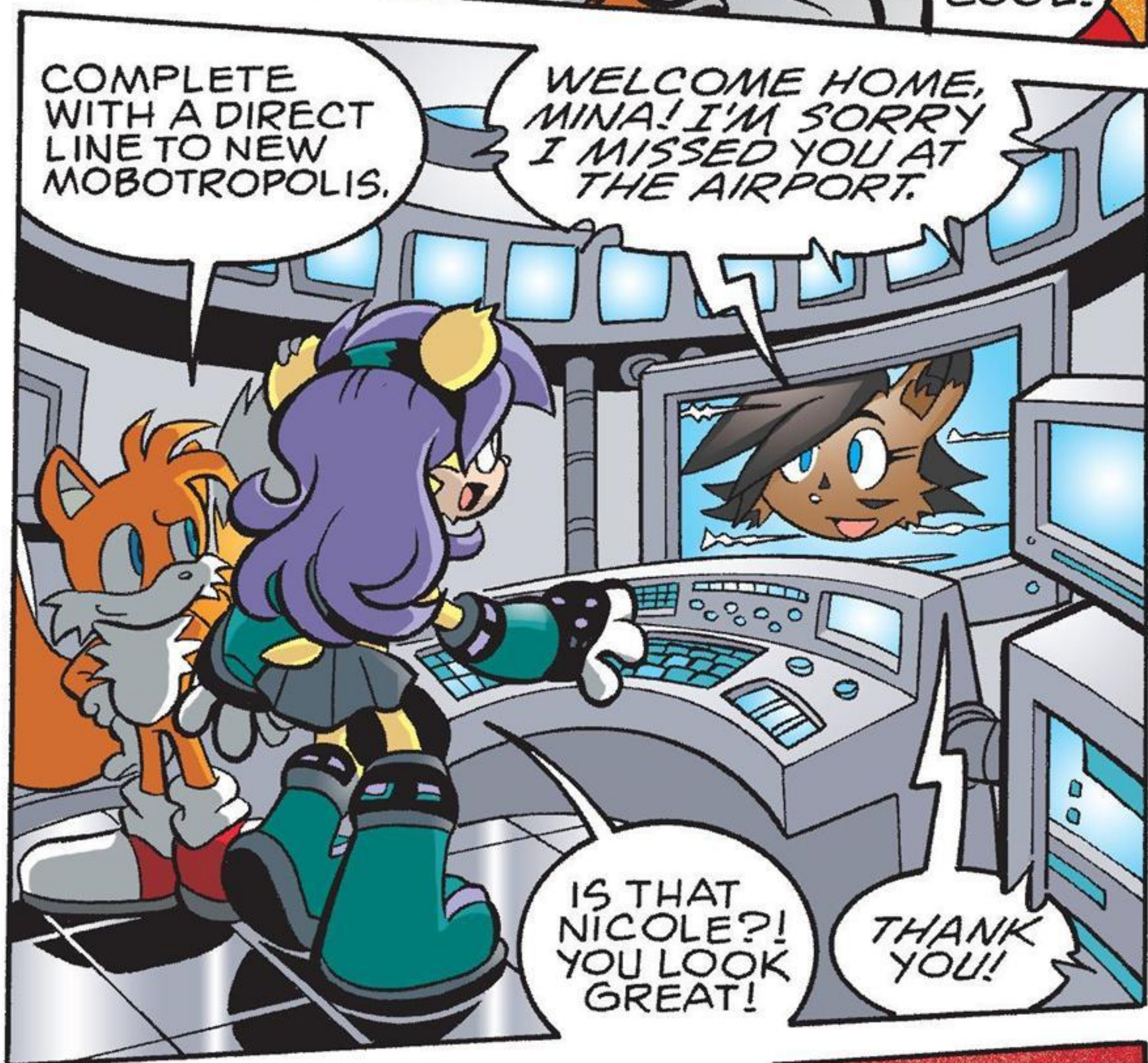
UH-HUH. NO, WE'RE COOL!



THIS PLACE IS LOOKING LOADS BETTER, MAN.

HOW MUCH MORE IS LEFT TO GO?

NOT MUCH! MOST OF IT IS JUST MINOR NOW. WE EVEN GOT THE LAB UP AND RUNNING.

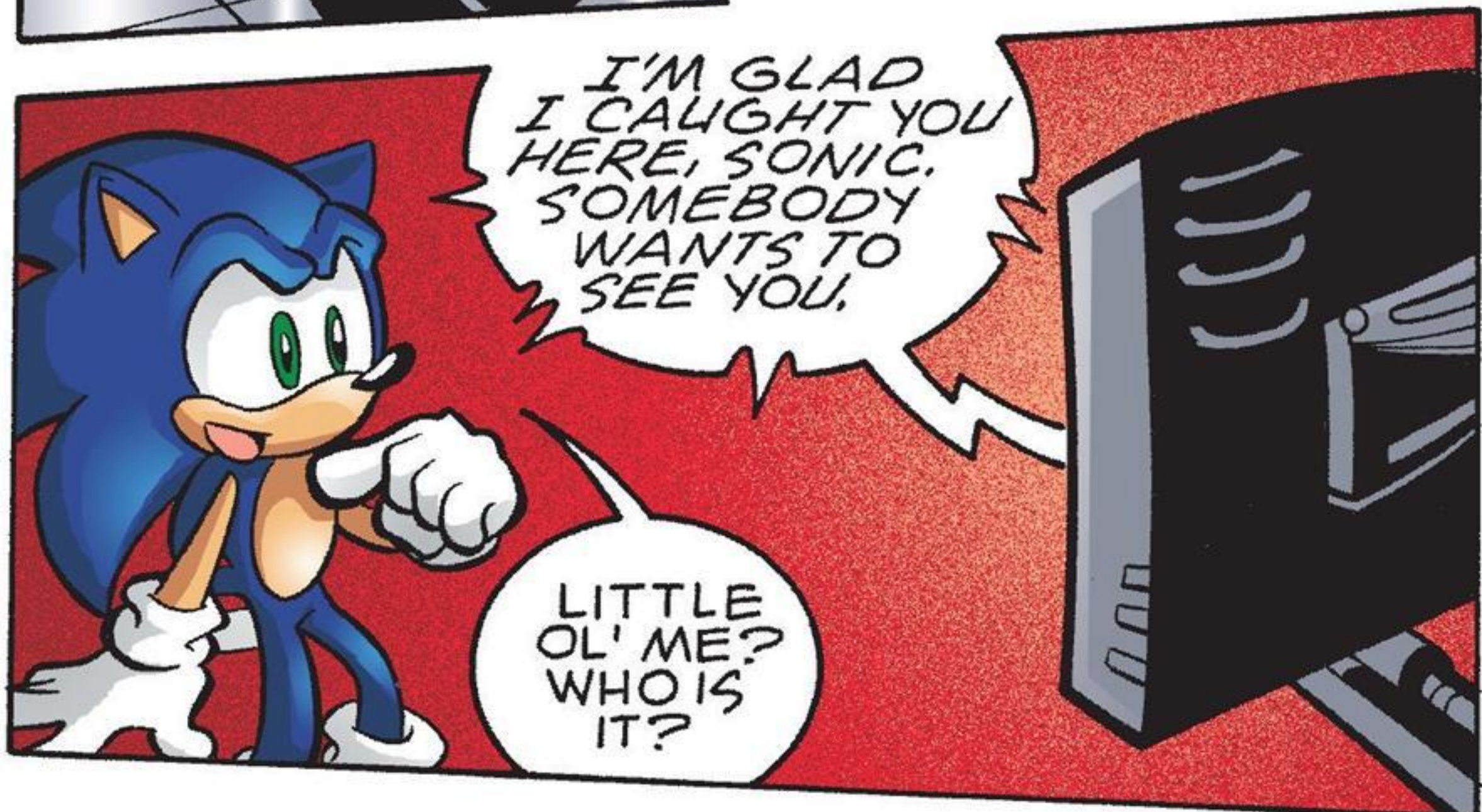


COMPLETE WITH A DIRECT LINE TO NEW MOBOTROPOLIS.

WELCOME HOME, MINA! I'M SORRY I MISSED YOU AT THE AIRPORT.

IS THAT NICOLE?! YOU LOOK GREAT!

THANK YOU!



I'M GLAD I CAUGHT YOU HERE, SONIC. SOMEBODY WANTS TO SEE YOU.

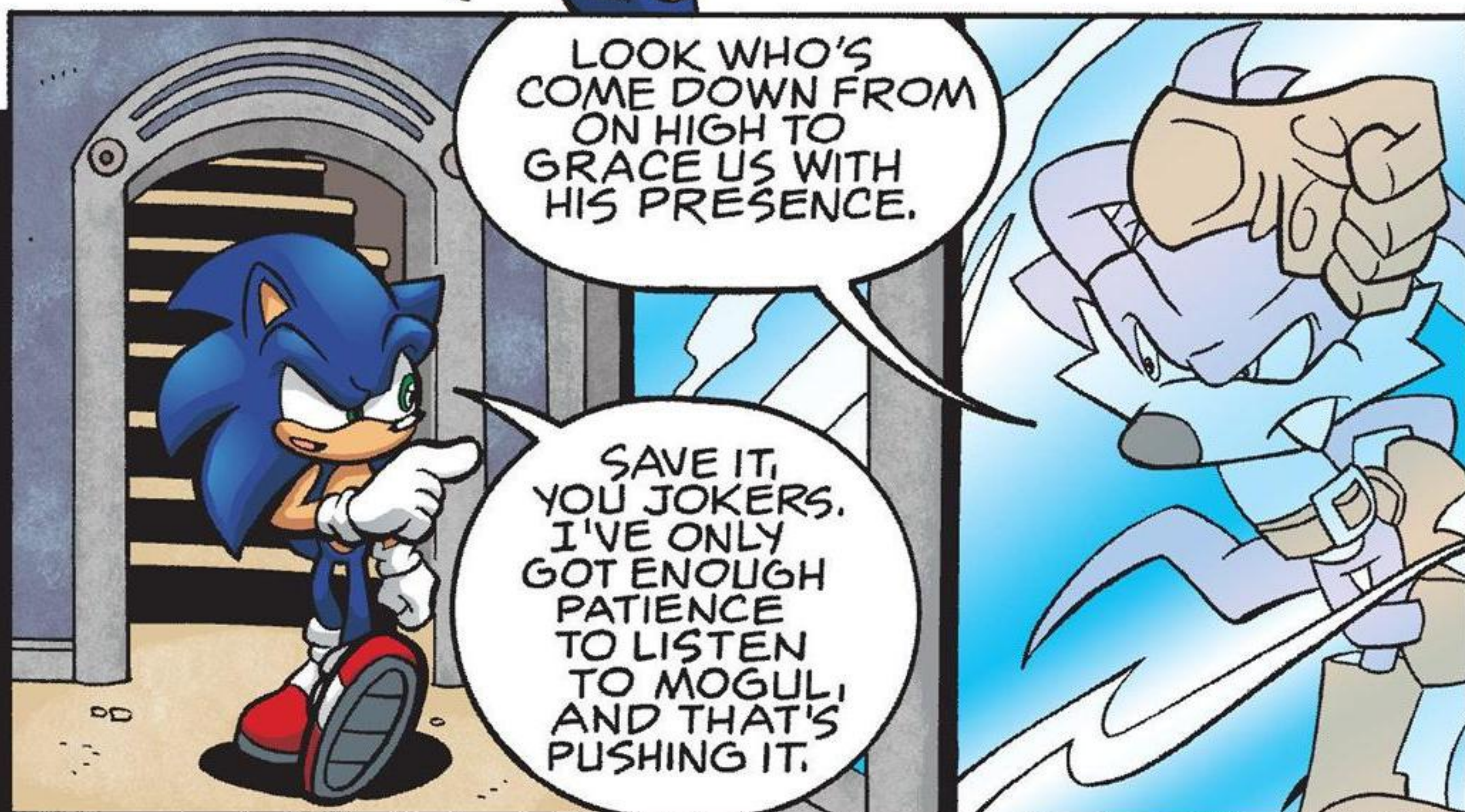
LITTLE OL' ME? WHO IS IT?

"MAMMOTH
MOGUL AT THE
DETENTION
CENTER."

"OH,
JOY."



PLEASE
LET HIM HAVE A
SORE THROAT.
I HAVE PLANS
FOR THE REST
OF THE DAY.



LOOK WHO'S
COME DOWN FROM
ON HIGH TO
GRACE US WITH
HIS PRESENCE.

SAVE IT,
YOU JOKERS.
I'VE ONLY
GOT ENOUGH
PATIENCE
TO LISTEN
TO MOGUL,
AND THAT'S
PUSHING IT.



WHAT'S
GOT YOUR
TRUNK IN A
KNOT, BIG
GUY?

YOU HAVE
MY GRATITUDE
FOR DECIDING TO
ACQUIESCE TO MY
SUMMONS. VIS-À-VIS
OUR PRESENT STATUS
OF STALEMATE, I
PROPOSE AN ARMIS-
TICE TO ARBITRATE
THE CONDITIONS OF
YOUR SURRENDER
AND MY
MAGNANIMOUS
DEPARTURE.





"STALEMATE?"
DUDE, WE'VE GOT
YOU IN A TINY CELL
THAT RESISTS YOUR
MAGIC. YOU DON'T
HAVE ENOUGH MIND-
POWERS TO DO MORE
THAN GIVE ME A
HEADACHE. AND
YOU WANT ME TO
SURRENDER?

HE'S GOT YOU
DEAD-TO-
RIGHTS,
MOGUL.
YOU'VE
GOT
NOTHING.

I'LL THANK
YOU TO
KEEP YOUR
IGNORANCE
TO YOUR-
SELF.



I WILL GIVE YOU
THIS ONE CHANCE
TO END THIS WITH-
OUT CONFRONTA-
TION. CEDE TO MY
DEMANDS, OR I
SHALL RAISE MY
NEW ITERATION OF
THE FEARSOME
FOURSOME TO DO
MY BIDDING.



WHERE
WOULD YOU
FIND A NEW
...FEARSOME
...FOURSOME
...?



HAHAHA!
SURE, MOGUL!
SEND A BUNCH
OF GUYS WHO ARE
AS TRAPPED AS
YOU ARE! OOOOH,
I HOPE I CAN
SLEEP TONIGHT!
HA!



THAT NIGHT...

STUPID, SMUG HEDGEHOG. "I HOPE I CAN SLEEP TONIGHT." PUH, I WISH I COULD MAKE HIM EAT HIS WORDS.

THEN YOU SHOULD ENJOY THIS VICARIOUSLY.

YOU CAN'T DO DIDDLY, EVEN YOUR PSYCHICS OR WHATEVER DON'T HAVE THE RANGE TO DO ANYTHING.

TO MOST WOULD-BE-VICTIMS I WILL GRANT YOU THAT. HOWEVER, MY TELEPATHY CAN REACH TO THOSE I HAVE ALREADY MARKED.

WAIT... "MARKED" ...?

LET IT NEVER BE SAID I DO NOT PLAN WITHOUT CONTINGENCIES. THERE ARE MANY I HAVE SEEDED A TELEPATHIC BOND IN DURING MY TRAVELS.

ANYBODY I KNOW AND HATE?

MOST ASSUREDLY, I HAVE HAD MY RESPITE, AND I AM REJUVENATED. SONIC'S BRASHNESS HAS FORCED MY HAND. THUS I REACH ACROSS THE ETHER TO MY IMMINENT MINIONS...

MINA...
REMEMBER...

REMEMBER WHEN
ROBOTNIK RECLAIMED
HIS OLD CITY.
REMEMBER HOW YOU
SOUGHT YOUR DEAR
MOTHER.

I FOUND YOU. I SAW
YOUR POTENTIAL. I
ENHANCED YOUR
NATURAL PROWESS,
BUT ROBBED YOUR
MEMORY. THE BEST
PAWNS ARE THE
UNWITTING ONES.

YOU WOULD NOT
STUMBLE UPON
YOUR NEW POWER
UNTIL LATER. YET
YOU FAILED TO USE
IT AND FOLLOWED
YOUR HEART ELSE-
WHERE. REMEMBER
--AND I WILL UNDO
THAT MISTAKE.

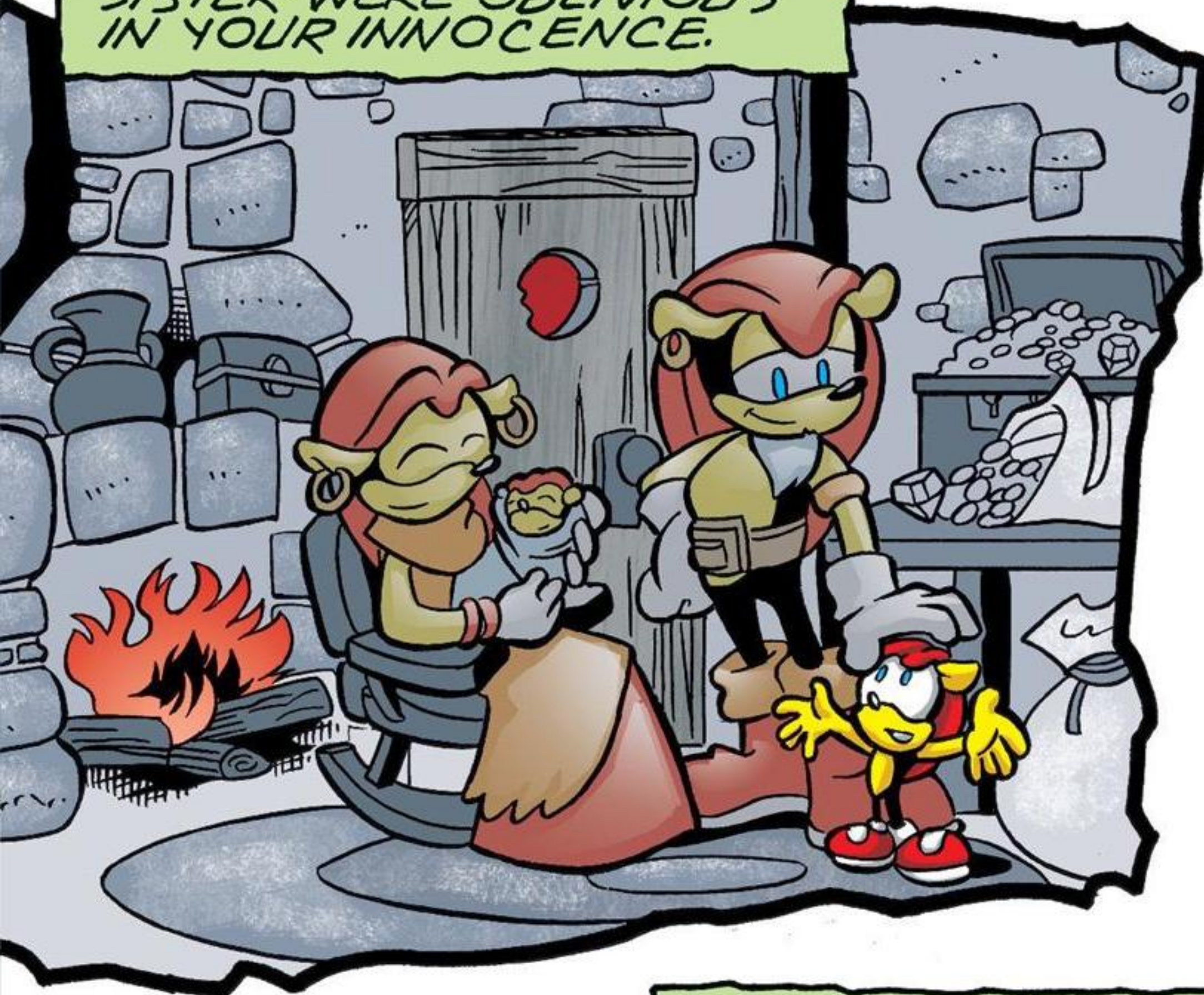
RISE, MY
FIRST.

ZZZSNRK?



MIGHTY...
REMEMBER...

YOU WERE TOO LITTLE TO
REALIZE YOUR PARENTS'
THIEVERY. YOU AND YOUR
SISTER WERE OBLIVIOUS
IN YOUR INNOCENCE.



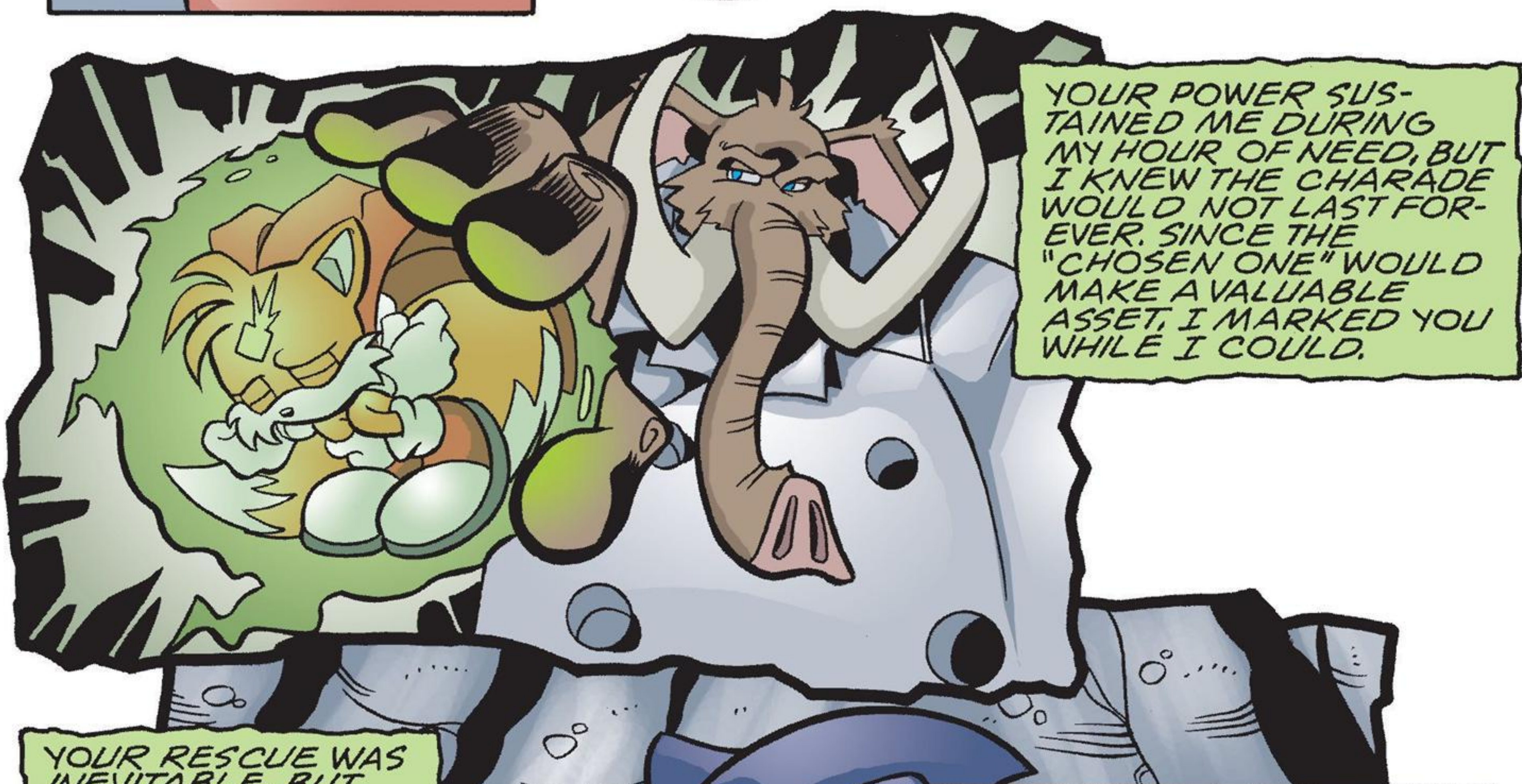
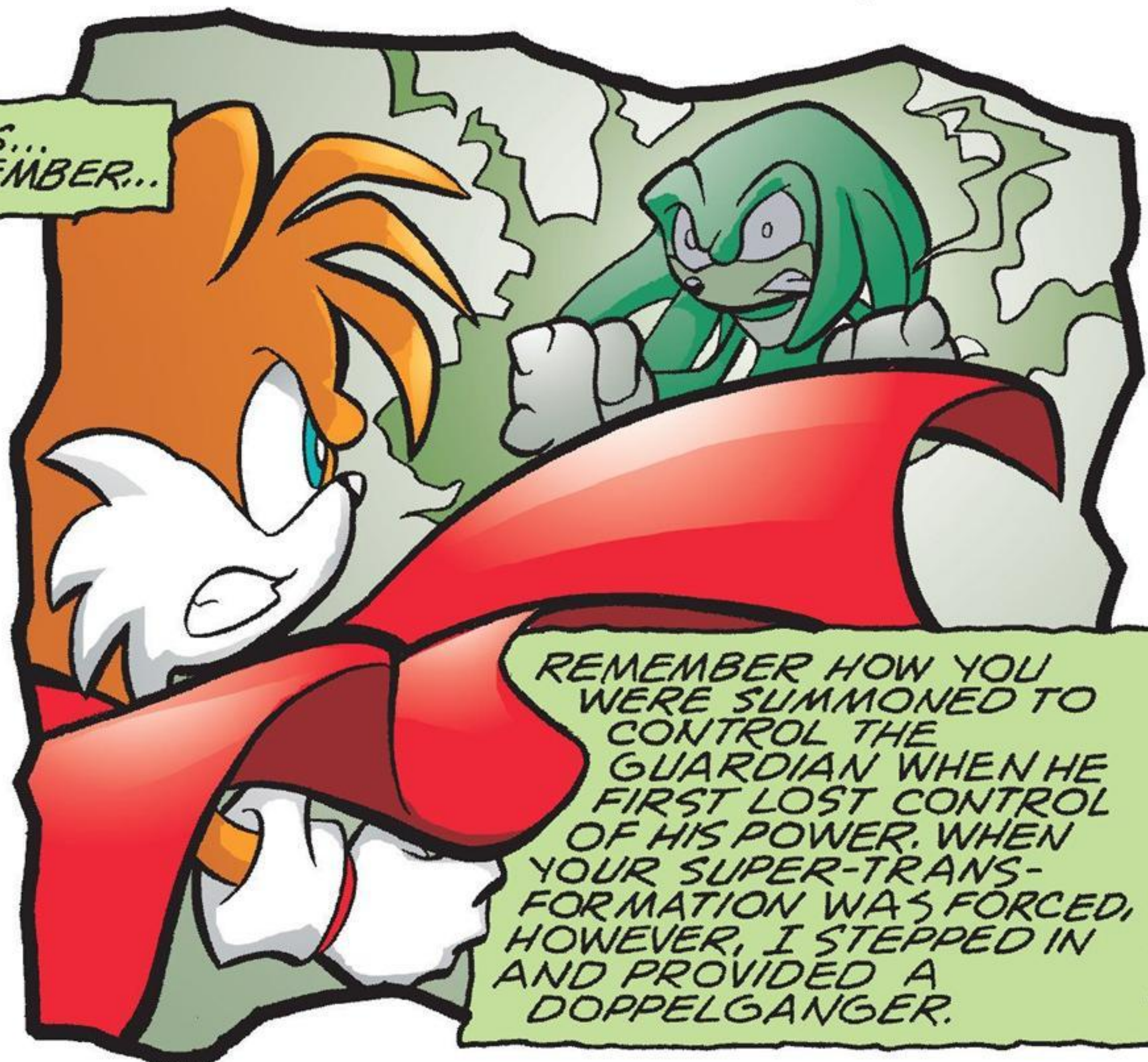
YOU DID NOT UNDER-
STAND WHY THEY WERE
IMPRISONED. WHEN I
FOUND YOU, ALL YOU
WANTED WAS THE
POWER TO SAVE THEM.
REMEMBER NOW THAT
I GAVE IT TO YOU.



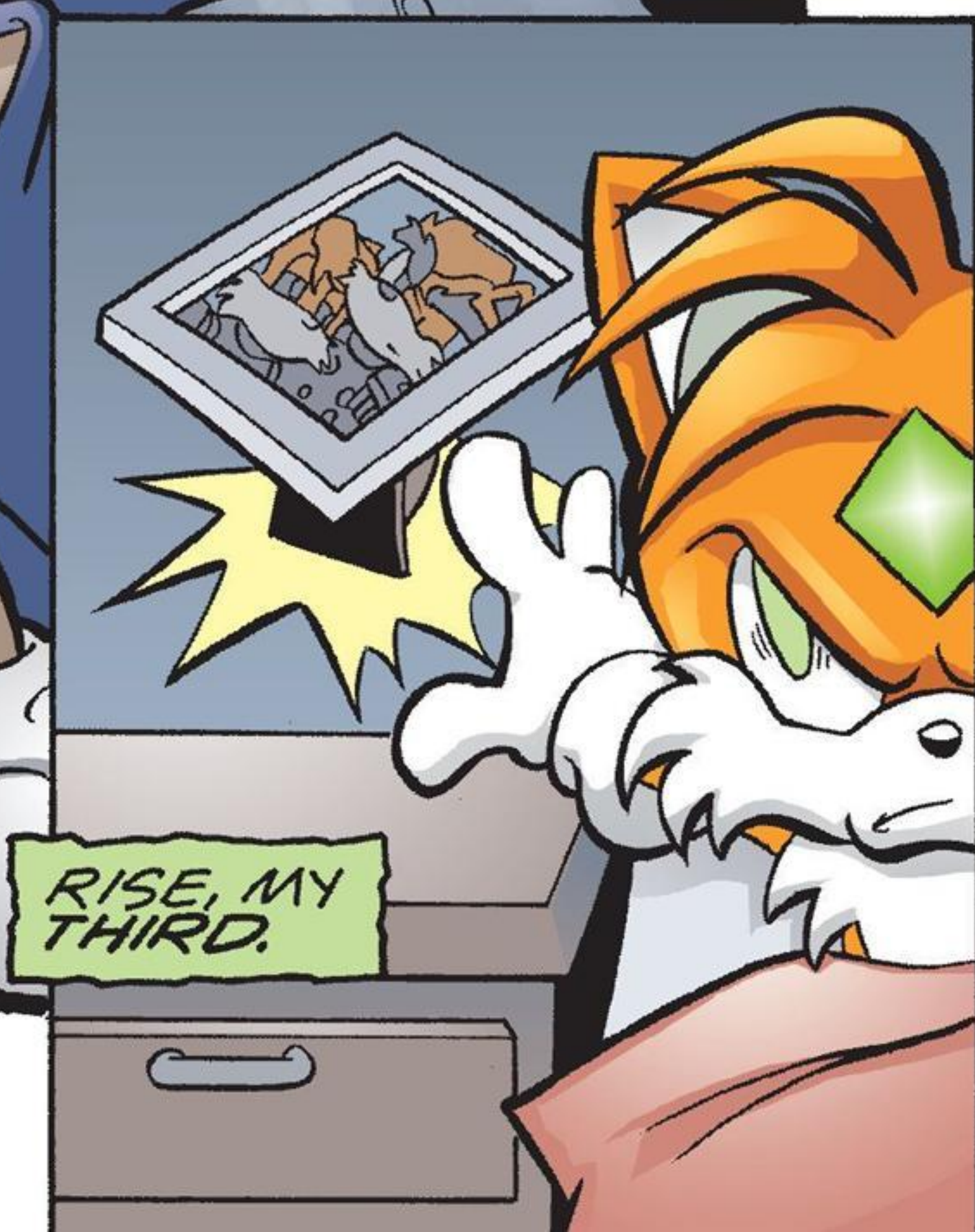
SUCH FREAKISH
STRENGTH FAILED
TO LIBERATE THEM,
AND MADE YOU A
PARIAH. REMEMBER
HOW YOU LEFT
MERCIA AND
WANDERED UNTIL
YOU FOUND YOUR
FINAL CHOICE OF
EXILE.
NOW I'VE COME TO
CLAIM YOU.



RISE, MY
SECOND.

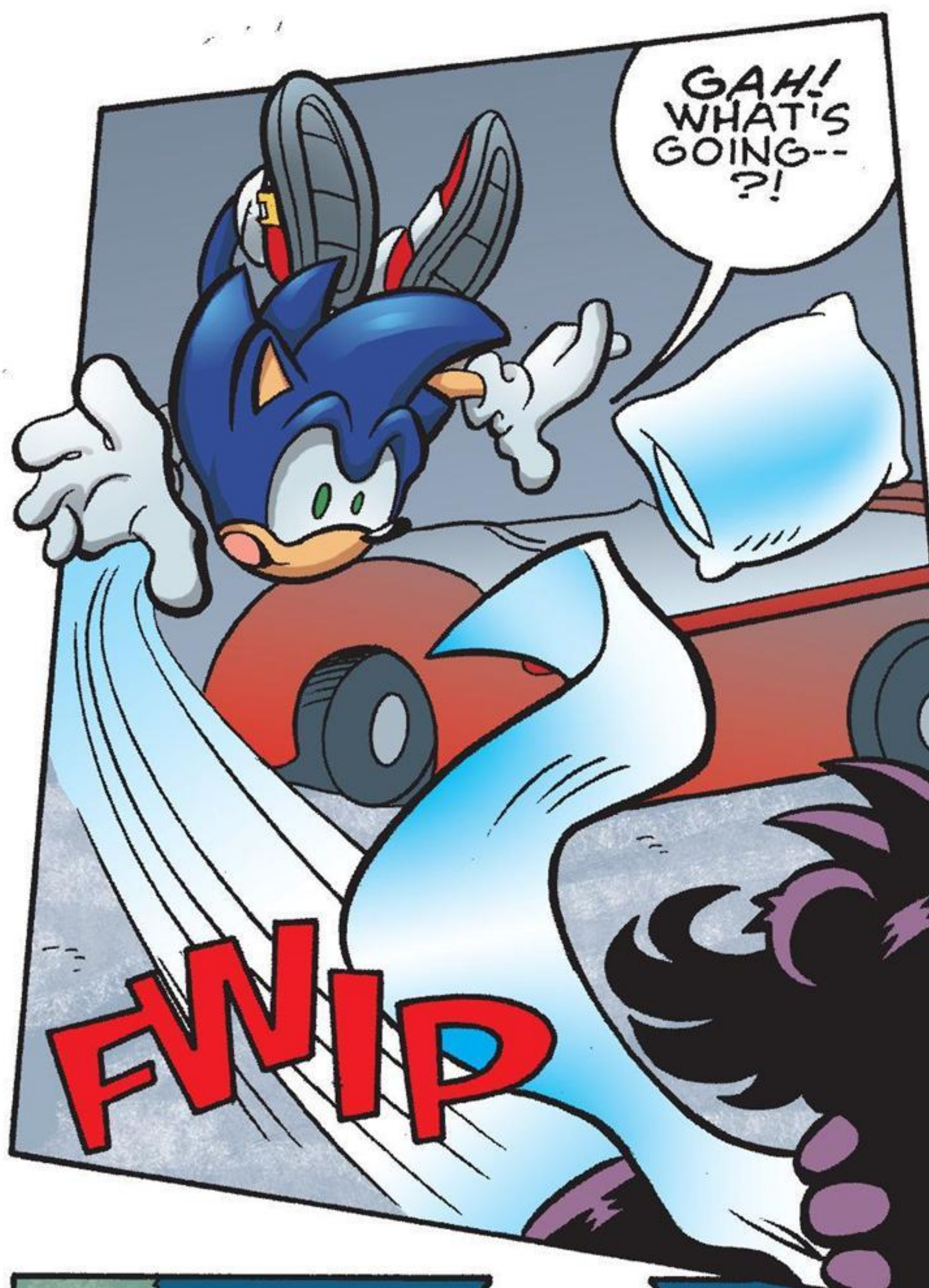
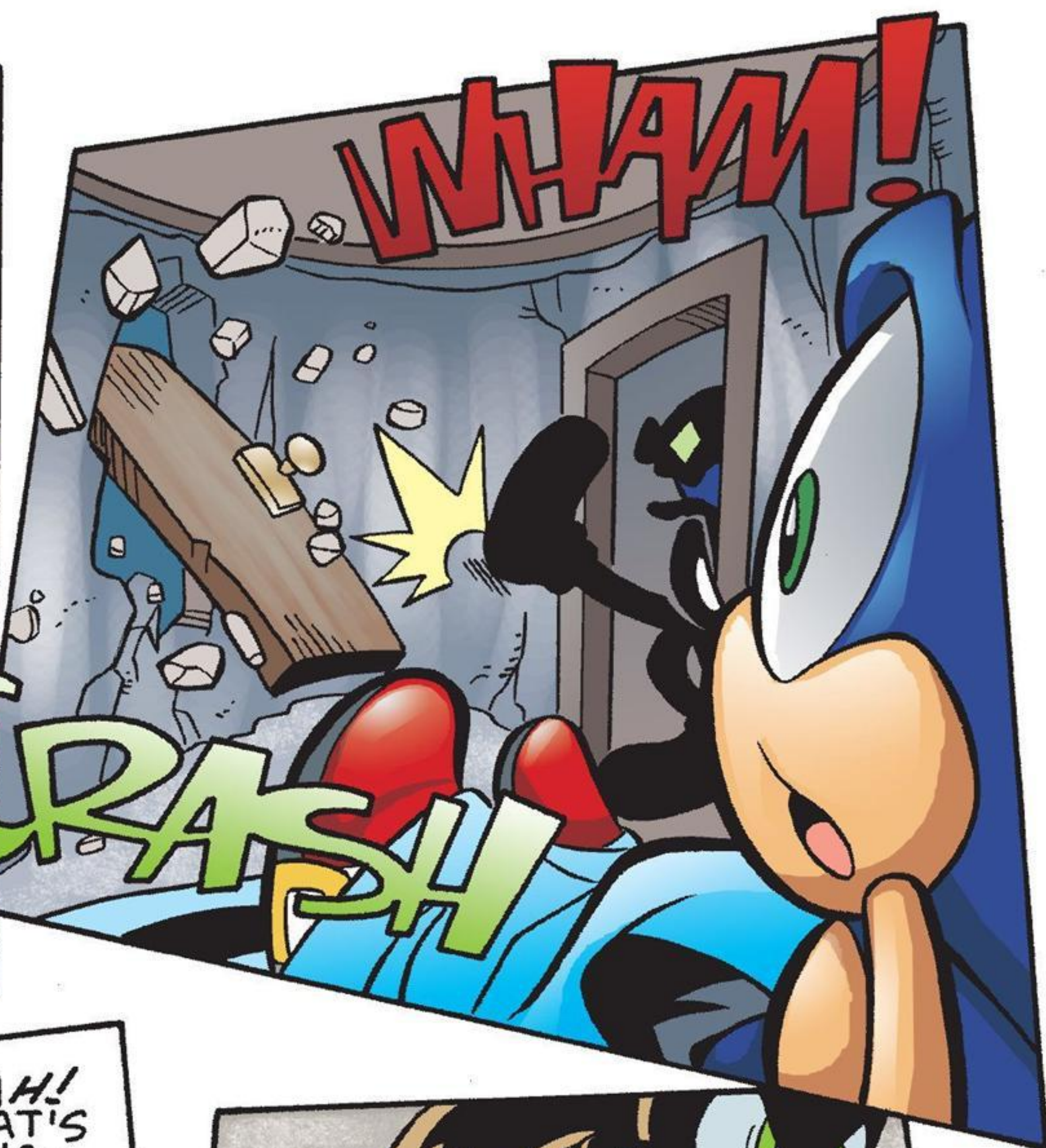


YOUR RESCUE WAS INEVITABLE, BUT NEITHER YOU NOR SONIC KNEW YOU WERE NOW BOUND TO ME. I SUMMON YOU NOW TO SERVE AFTER ALL THIS TIME.





THAT'S IT...
NOW FOR
THE *FOURTH*,
HE WILL NEED
CONVINCING...





LOOKS LIKE SONIC'S FRIENDS HAVE HIM IN A TIGHT SPOT! JUST WHAT DOES MOGUL PLAN TO DO WITH HIS NEW FEARSOME FOURSOME, AND HOW WILL HE PERSUADE SONIC TO GO ALONG WITH IT? AND WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE, WILL OUR HERO BE ABLE TO BREAK MOGUL'S HOLD OVER HIS FRIENDS AND DEFEAT THE PERNICIOUS PACHYDERM? COME BACK NEXT MONTH FOR THE SHOCKING CONCLUSION TO *MOGUL RISING!*

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

Presents: THE FORTY FATHOM
FREEDOM FIGHTERS

IN MISFIT BADNIKS: THE SOGGY, SALTY SEQUEL

ROLL CALL:



CATERKILLER



ORBINAUT



CRABMEAT



BAT BRAIN



SPLATS



BUZZBOMBER



BURROBOT



JAWS



MOTOBUG



BALLHOG



COCONUTS

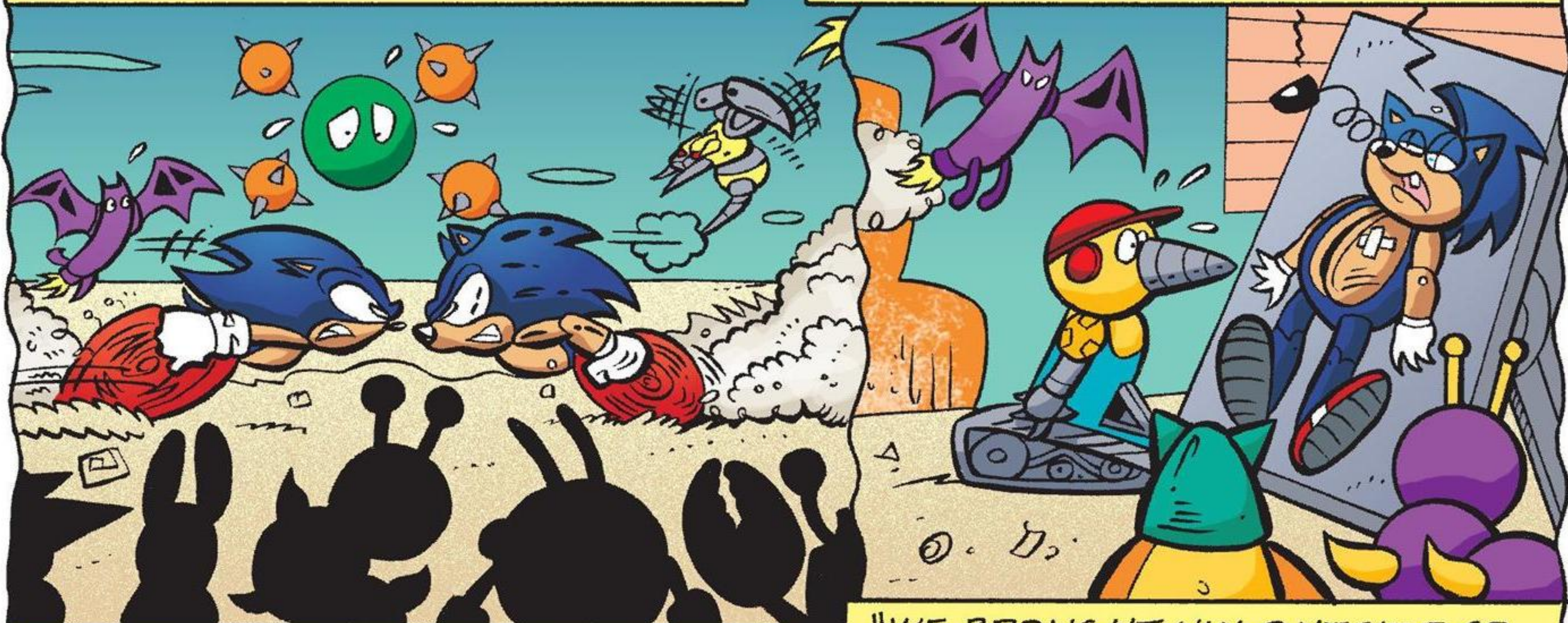
SORRY, I HAD
TO GO TO THE
RUST ROOM. WHAT
HAPPENED WHILE
I WAS GONE?

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Colors: **AIMEE RAY**
Editor: **MIKE PELLERITO**

A
LOT!!!

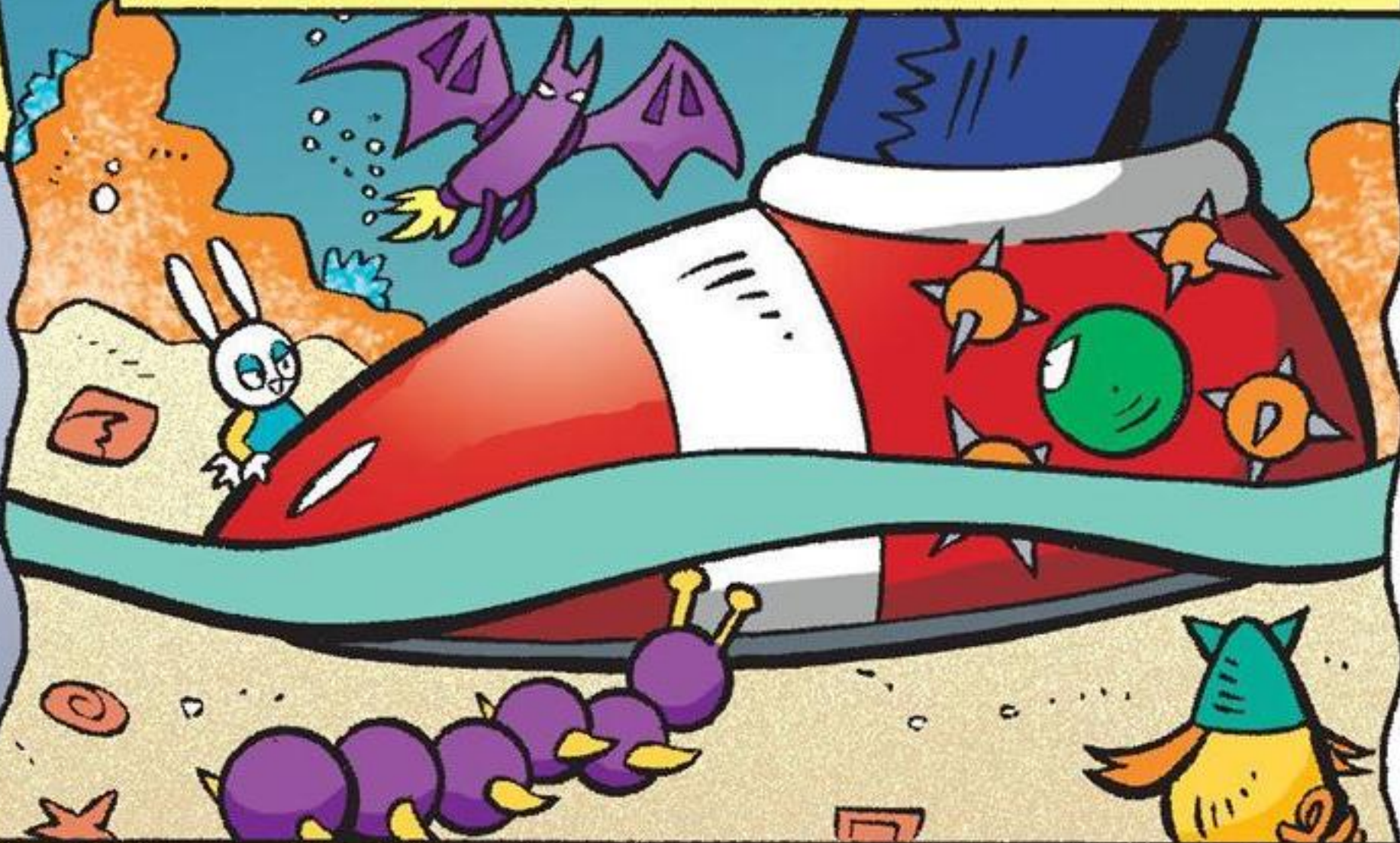
"REMEMBER WHEN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG AND PSEUDO-SONIC DECIDED TO SETTLE THEIR FIGHT ON MISFIT ISLAND WITH A 'BIGHORN CHALLENGE'!... *

"WE TOOK THE DAMAGED PSEUDO-SONIC AND SUBMERGED THE ISLAND TO REPAIR HIM. THAT'S WHEN BURROBOT NOTICED SOMETHING..."



"WAY BACK WHEN, IVO ROBOTNIK HAD INSTALLED A 'RATIO REDOUBLING ROUTER' THAT CAUSES A ROBOT TO GROW GEOMETRICALLY. BURROBOT'S UNCLE HAD ONE JUST LIKE IT."**

"WE BROUGHT HIM OUTSIDE SO HE COULDN'T SHATTER THE DOME. WHEN WE HIT THE SWITCH, PSEUDO-SONIC BEGAN GROWING."

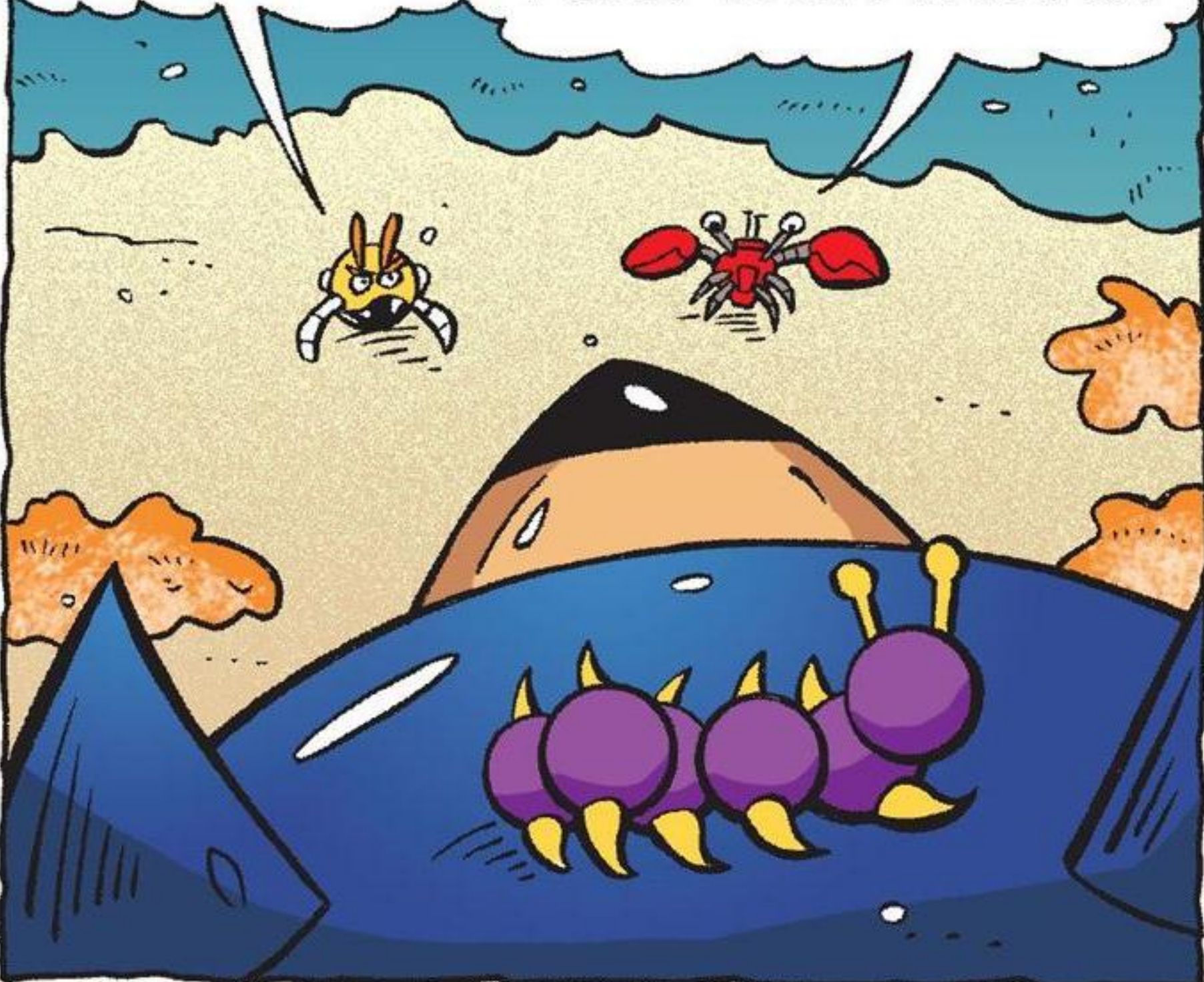


*AN "INSTANT CLASSIC" FROM STH #170: "ISLAND OF MISFIT BADNIKS."
--ALEXANDER GRAHAM PELL

**CLIMB INTO THE WAYBACK MACHINE AND FIND STH #3-- OR BUY A COPY OF SONIC FIRSTS-- OR THE CURRENT SONIC ARCHIVES #1... WOO HOO! A TRIPLE PLUG!--MP3.

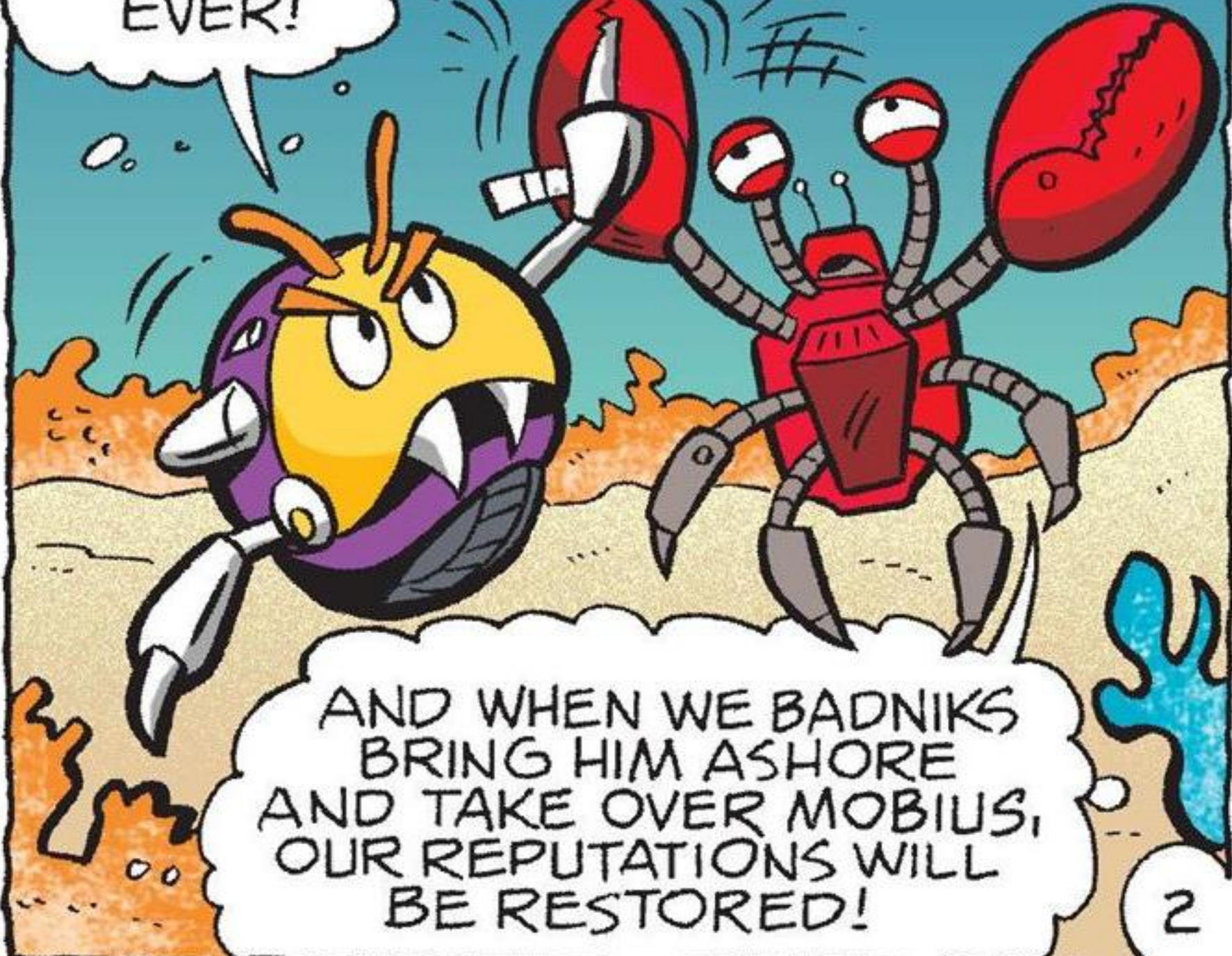
HOLY TOW-40! LOOK AT THE SIZE OF HIM!

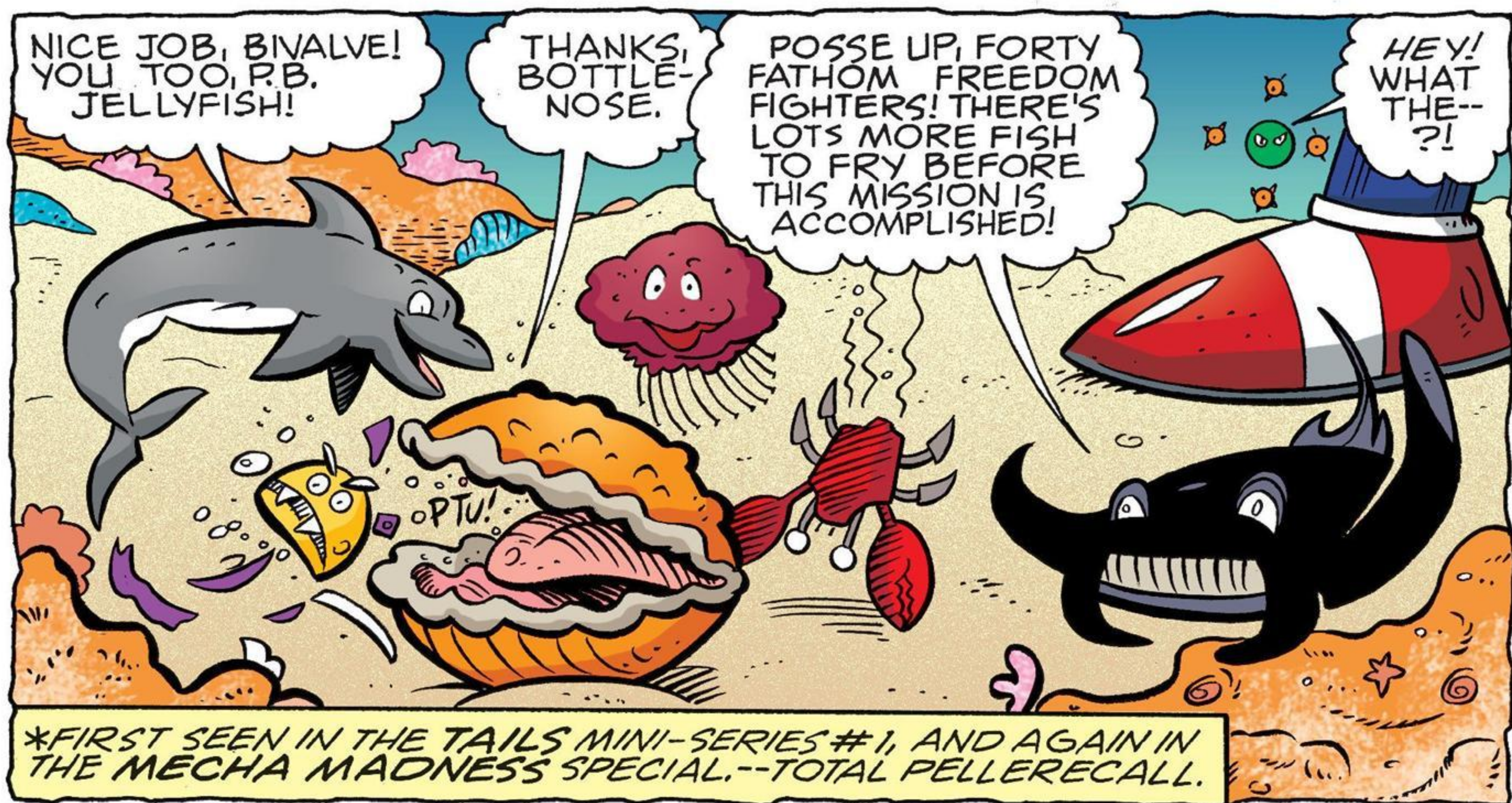
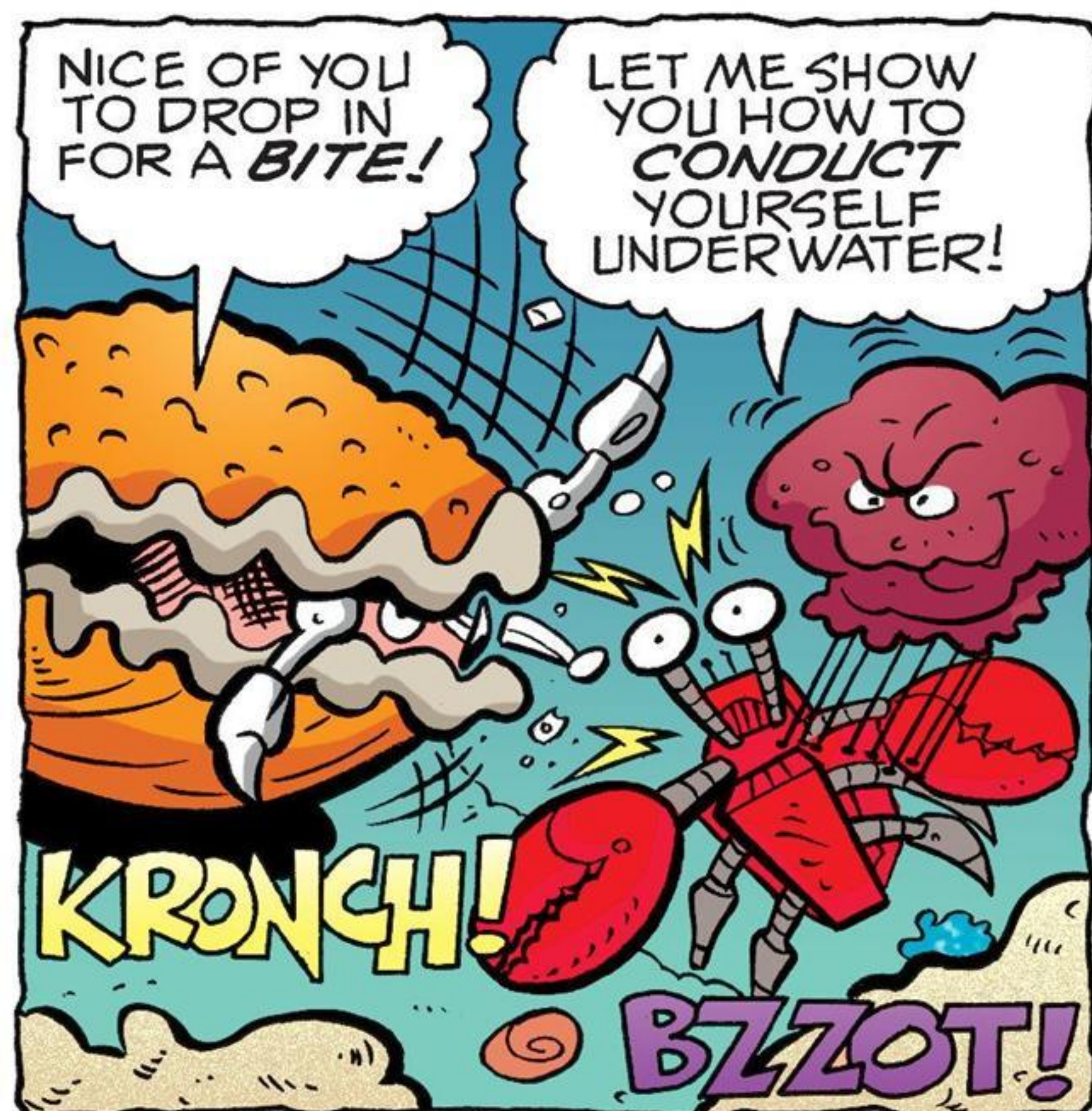
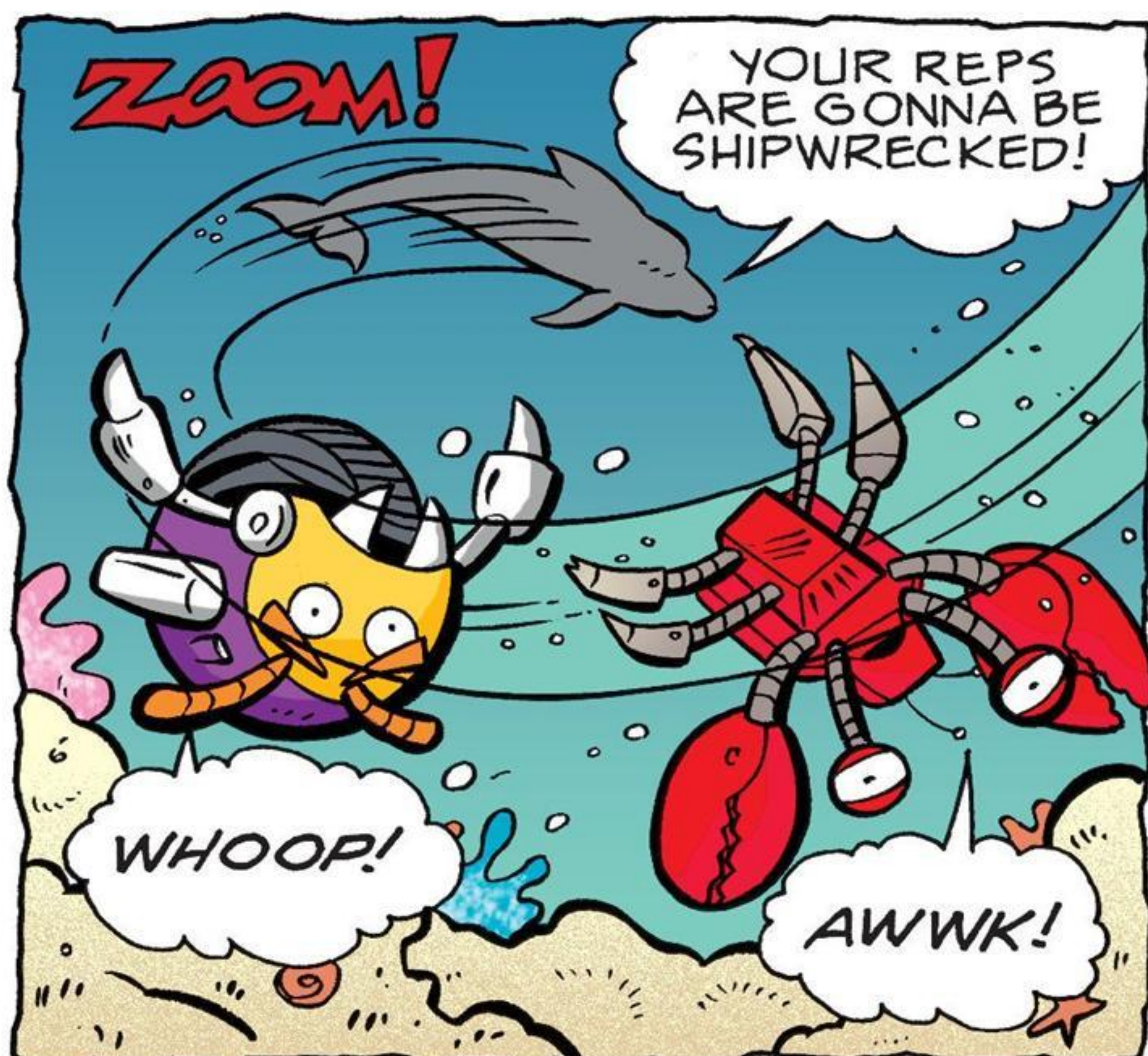
YEAH! JUST A LITTLE MORE TWEAKING, AND HE'LL BE FULLY OPERATIONAL!

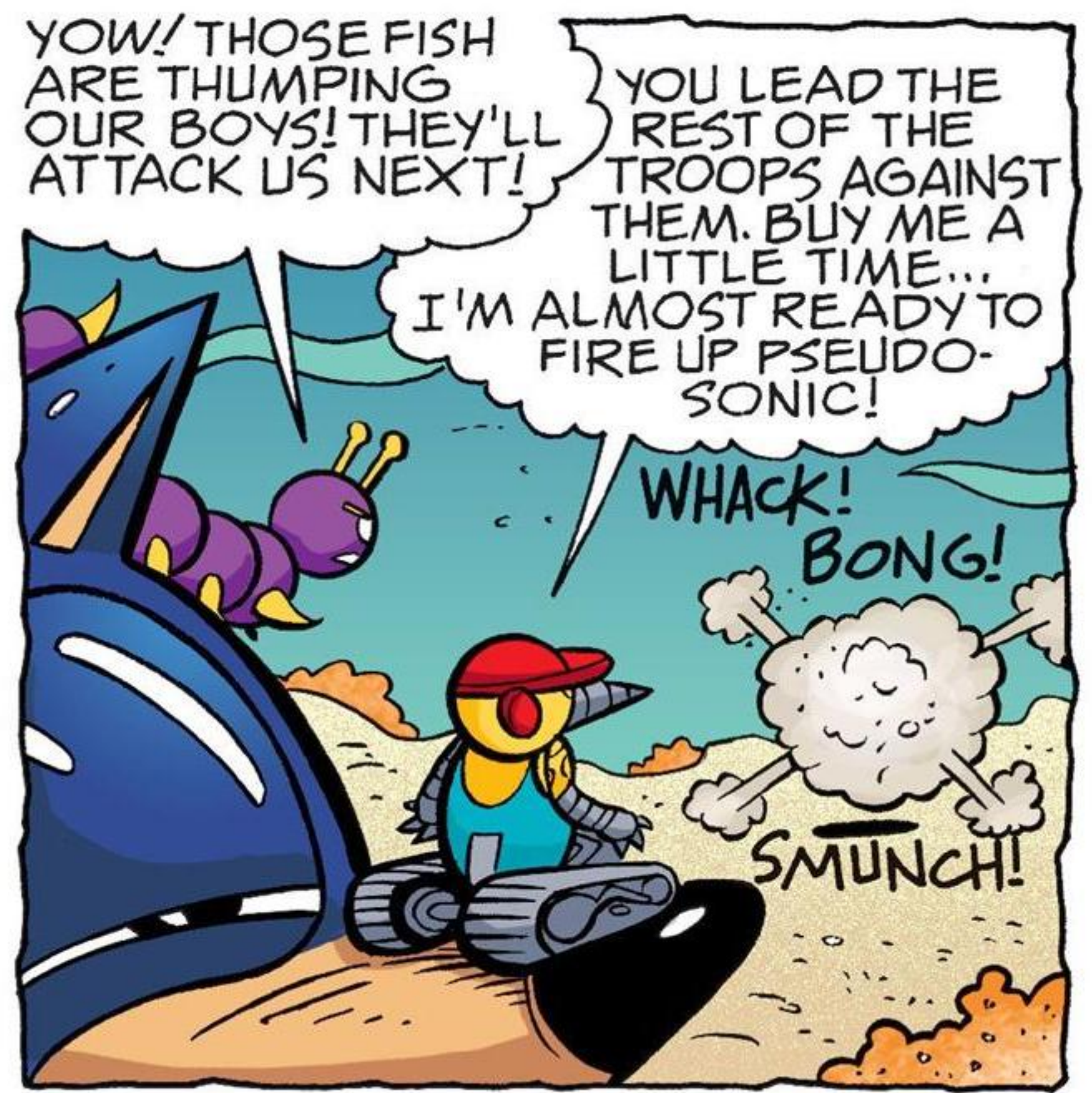
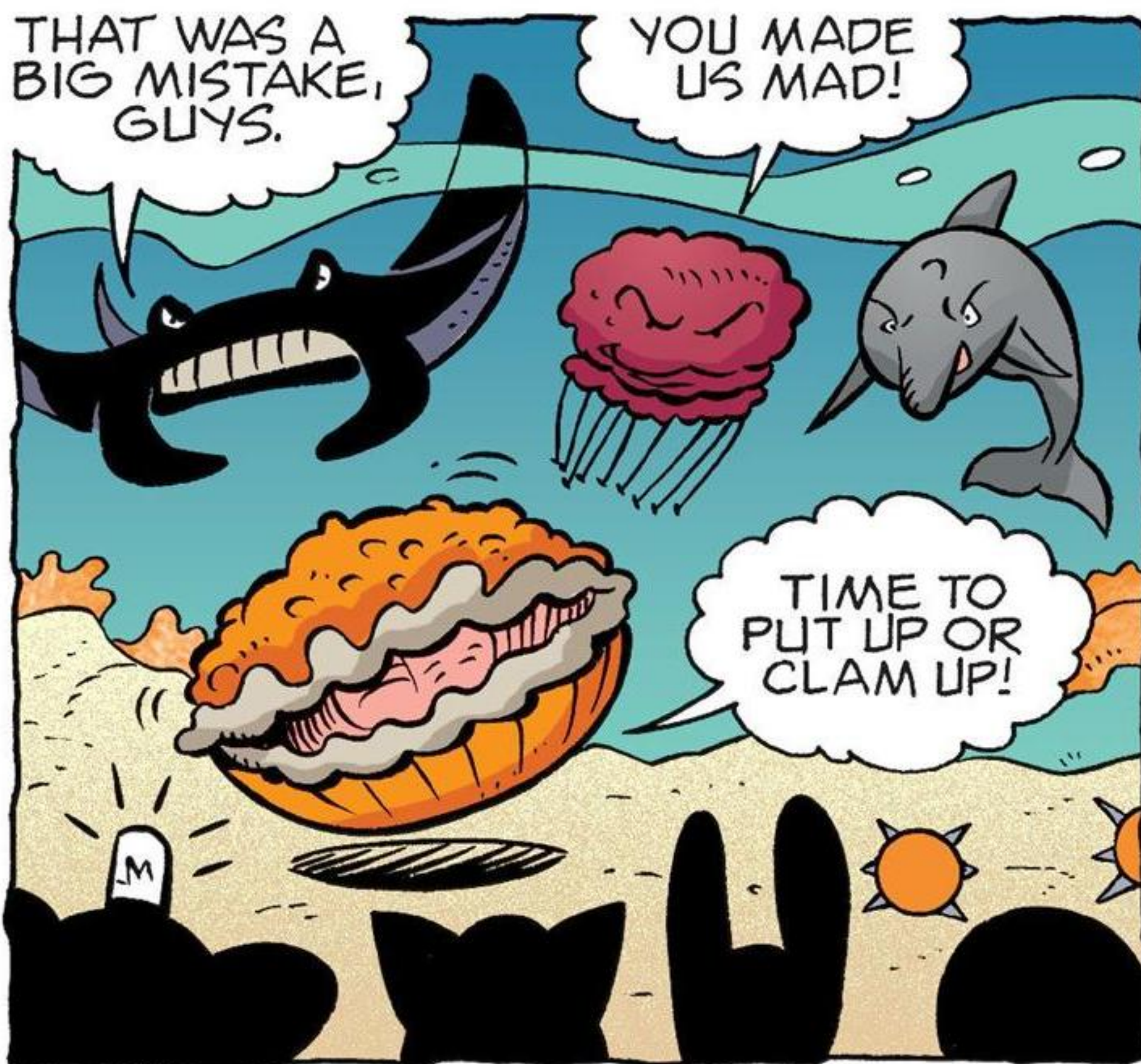
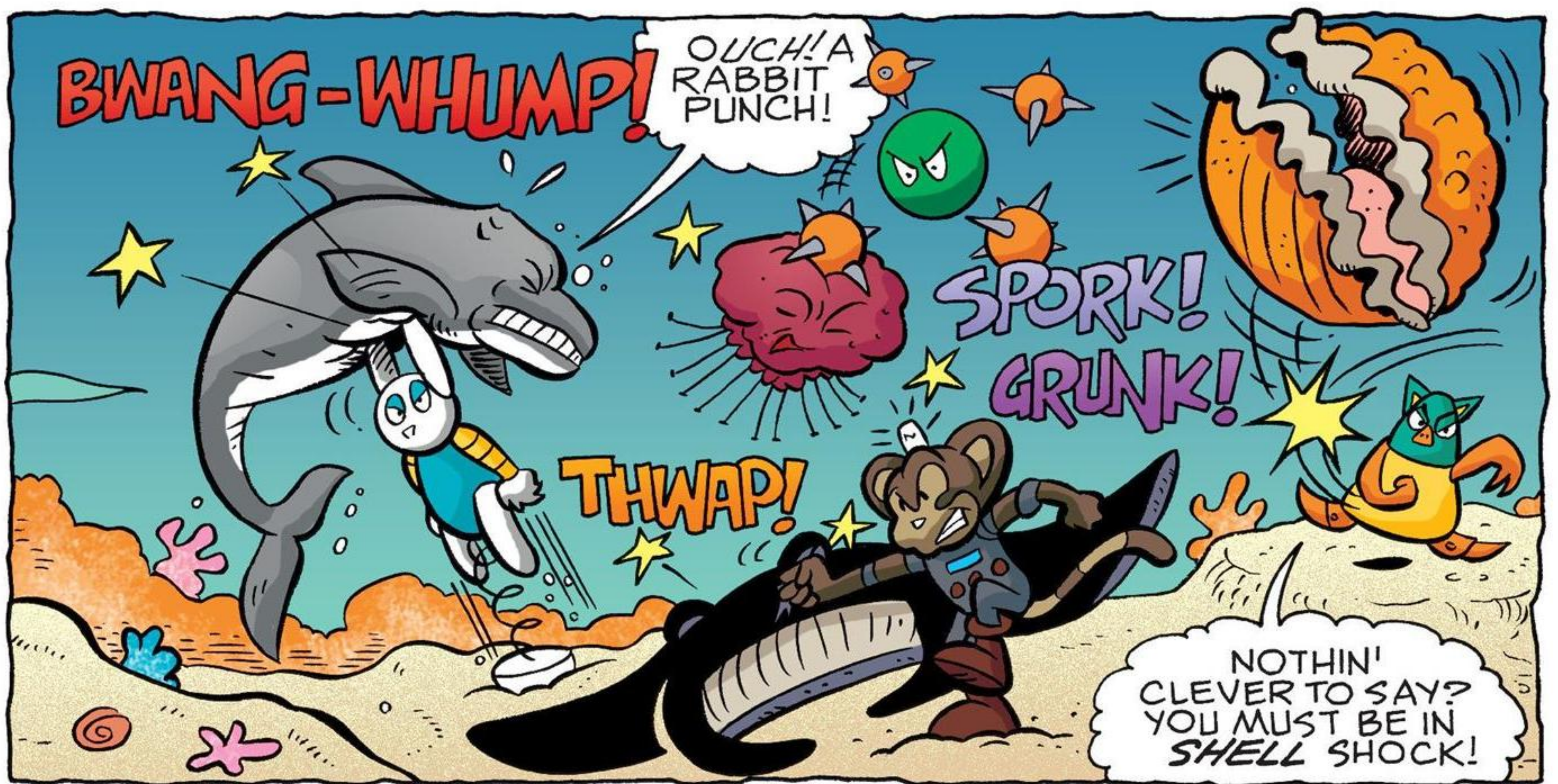


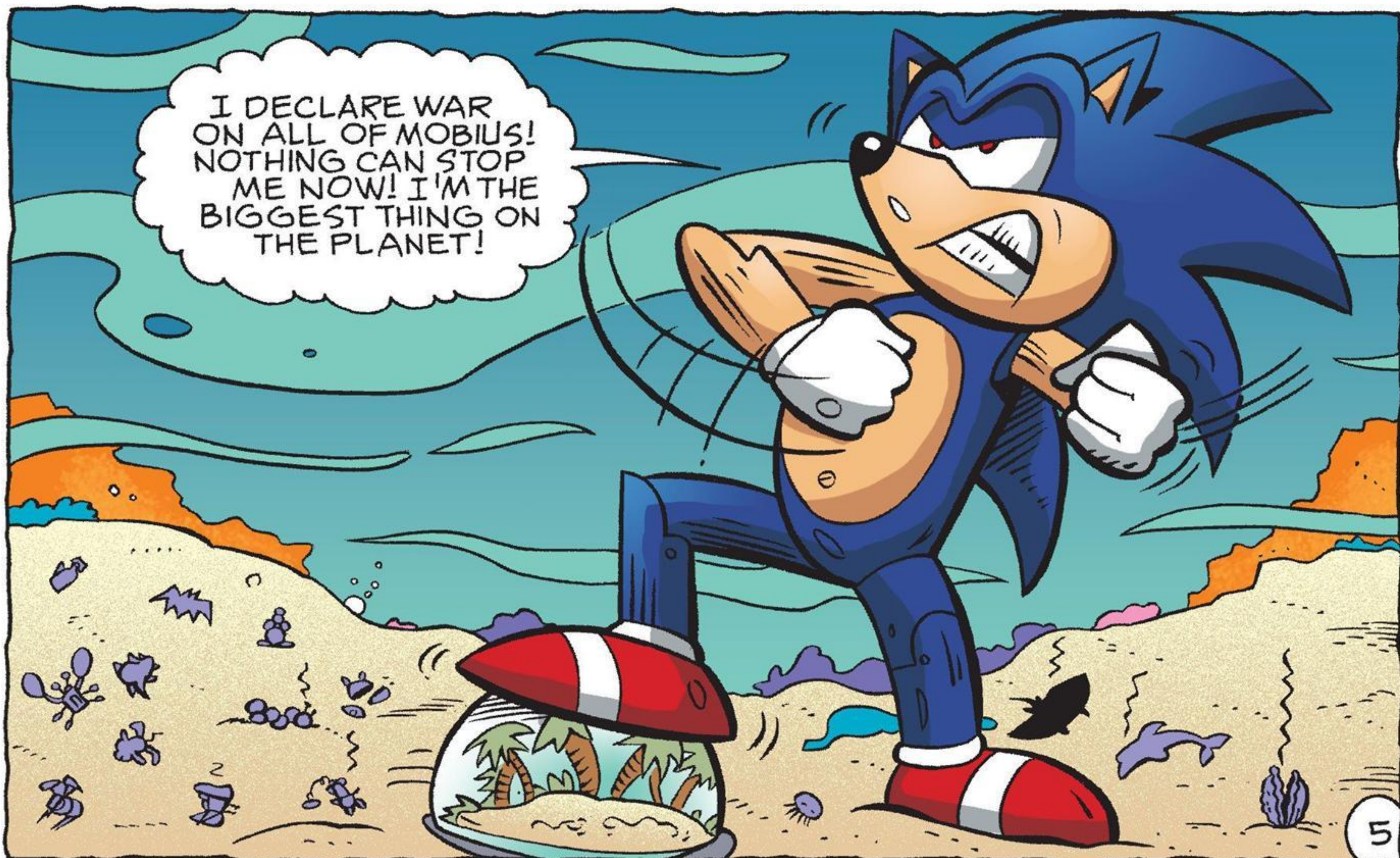
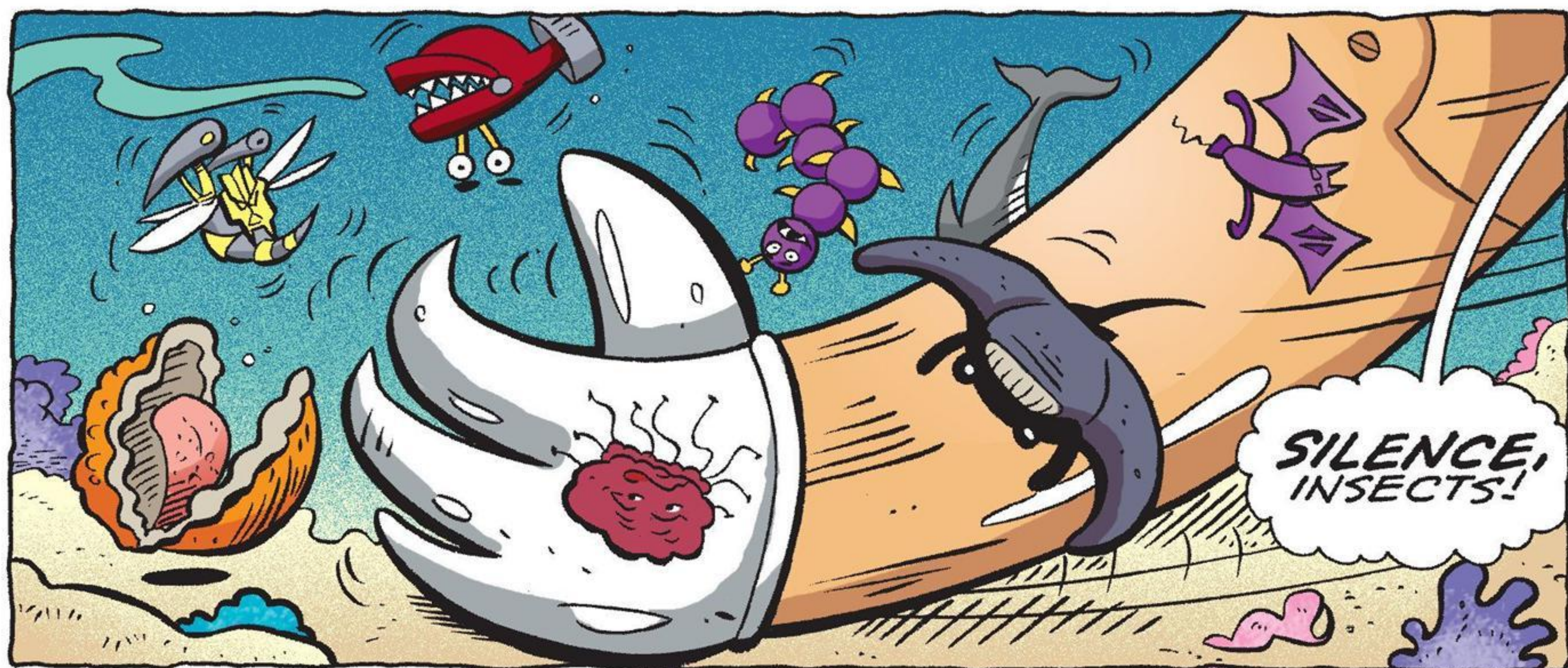
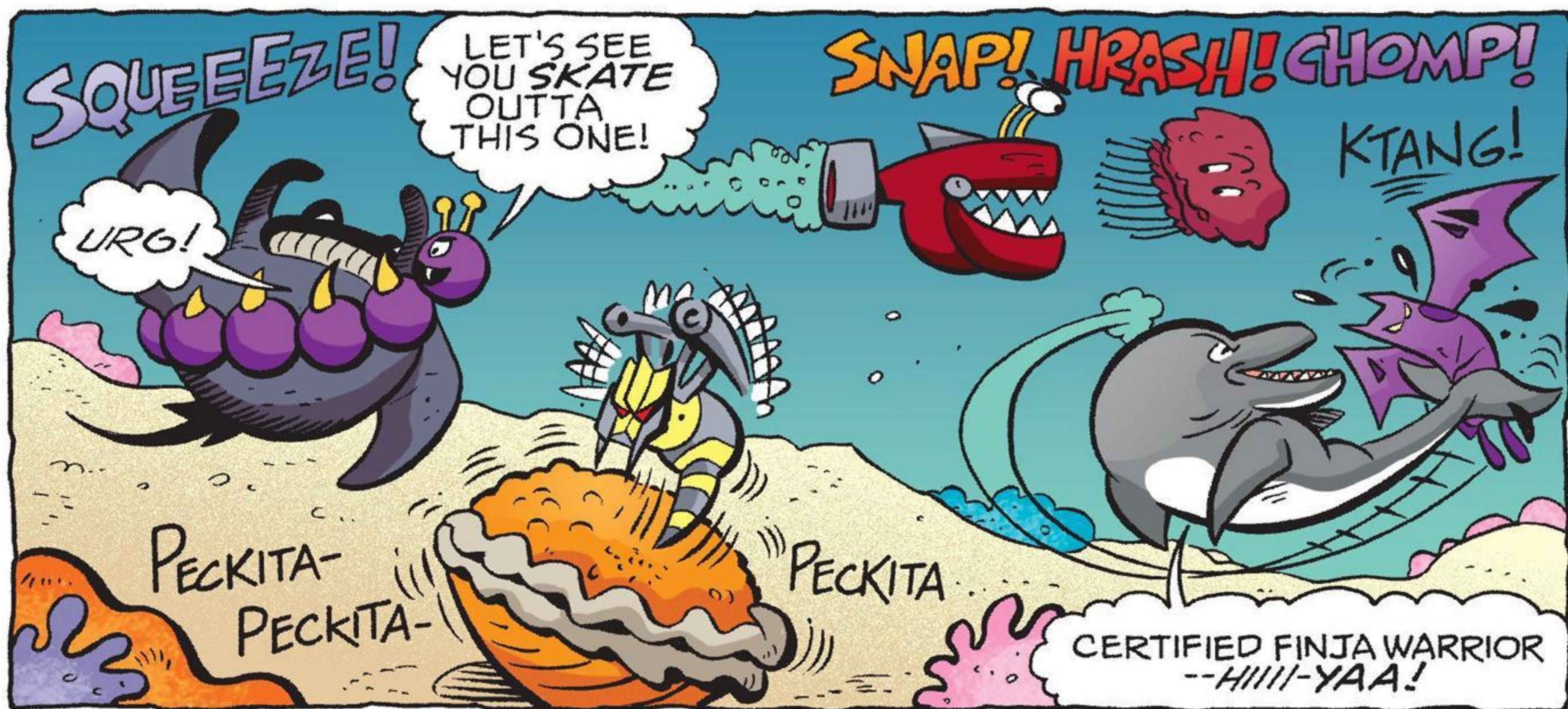
PSEUDO-SONIC'S GONNA BE THE BIGGEST, BADDEST FIGHTING MACHINE EVER!

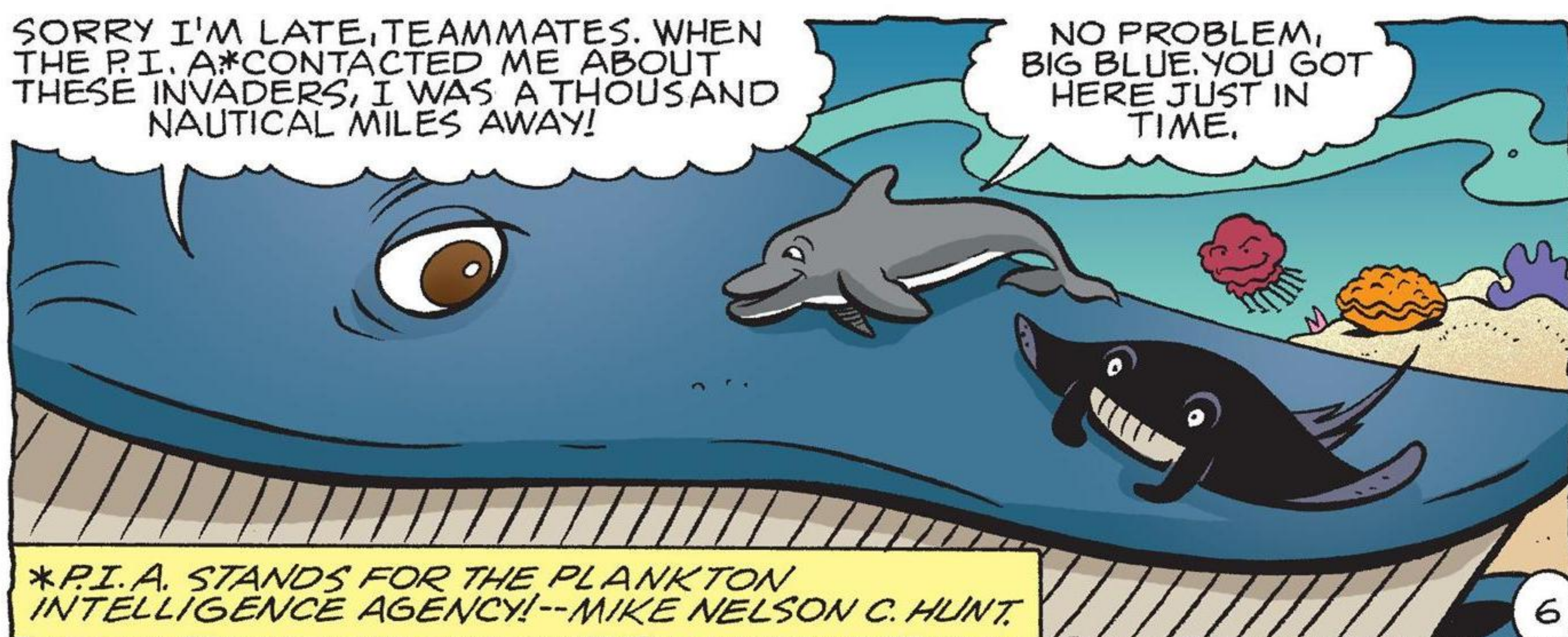
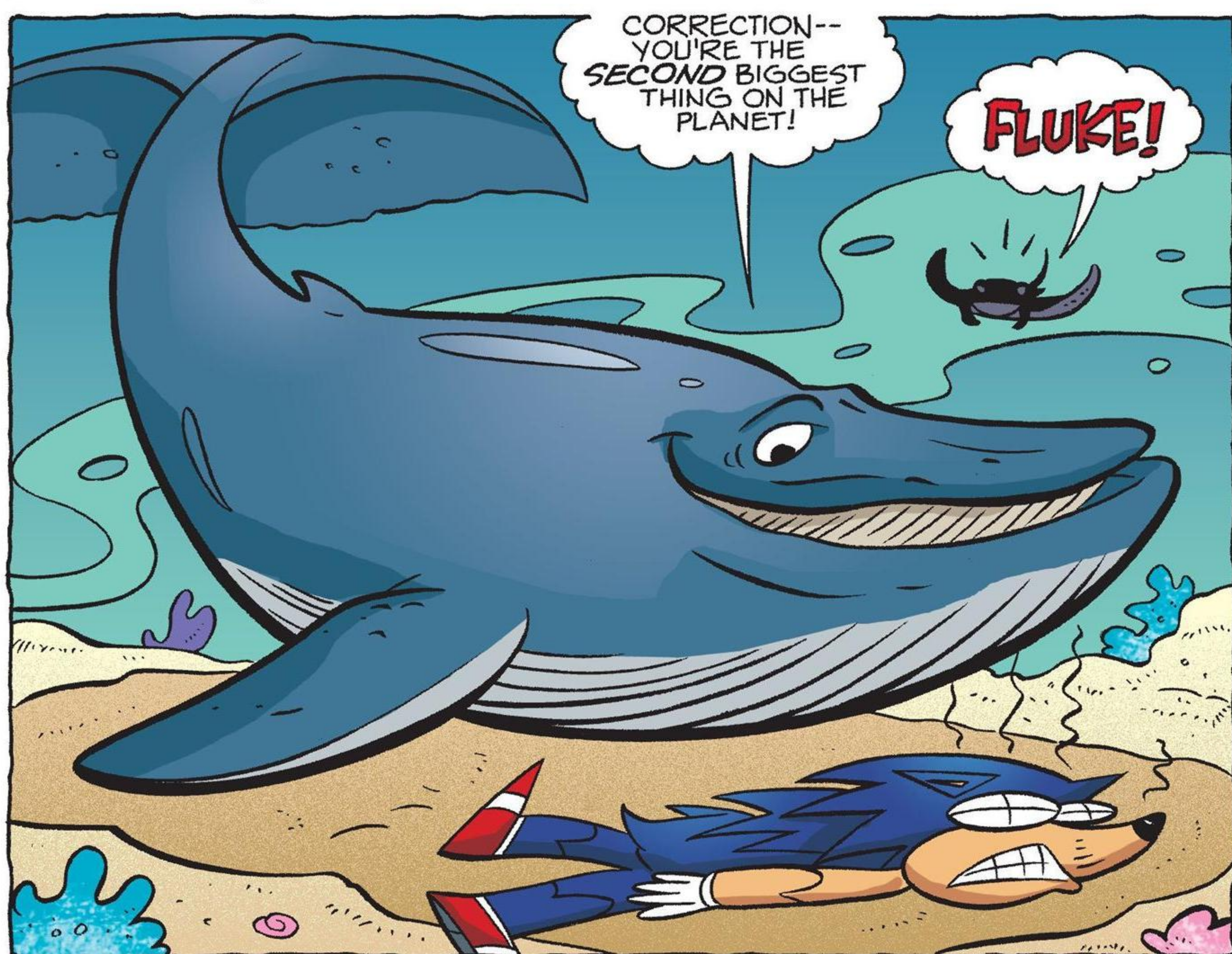
CLANK!





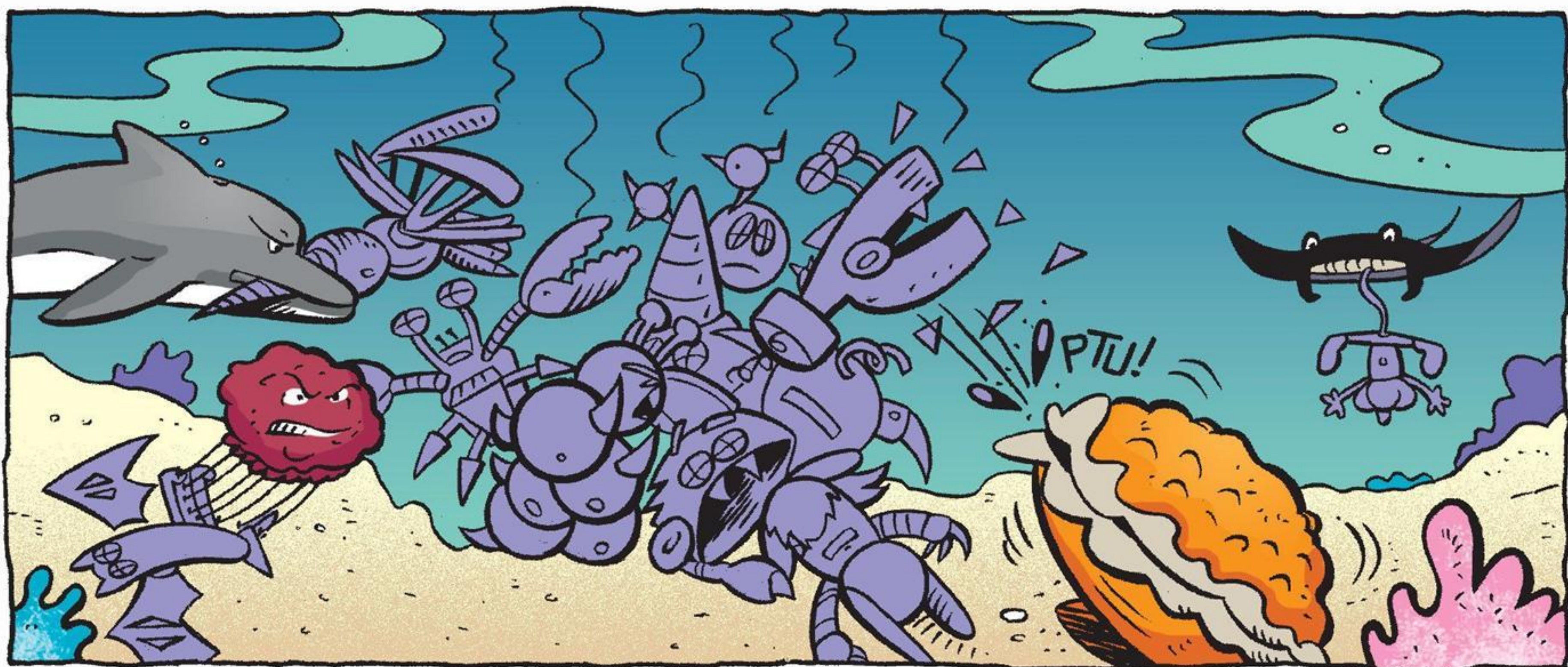






*P.I. A. STANDS FOR THE PLANKTON INTELLIGENCE AGENCY!--MIKE NELSON C. HUNT.

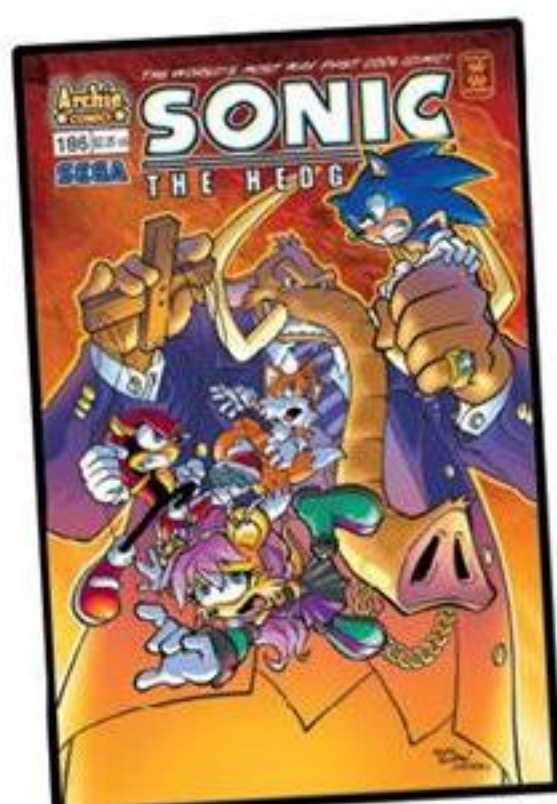
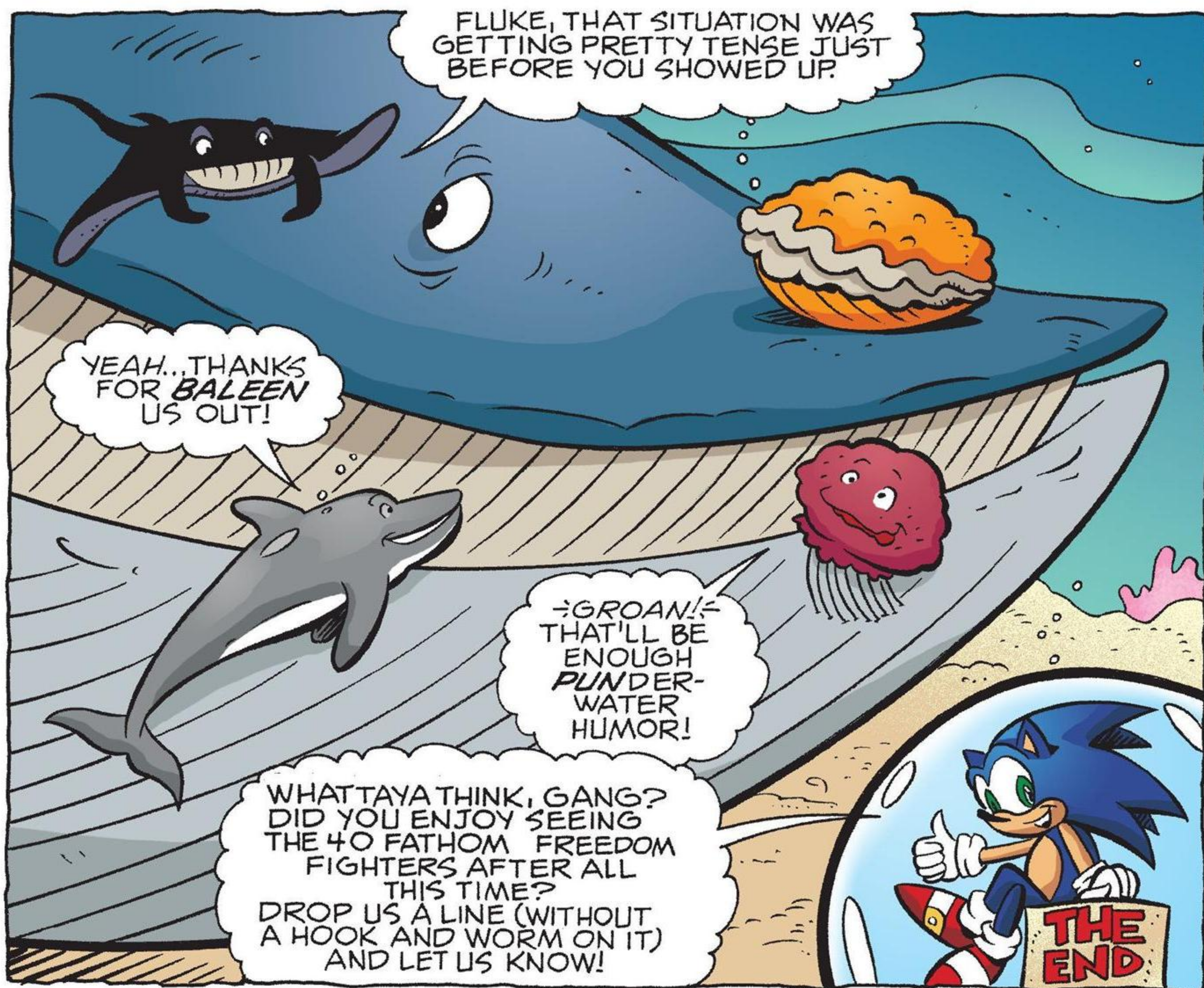
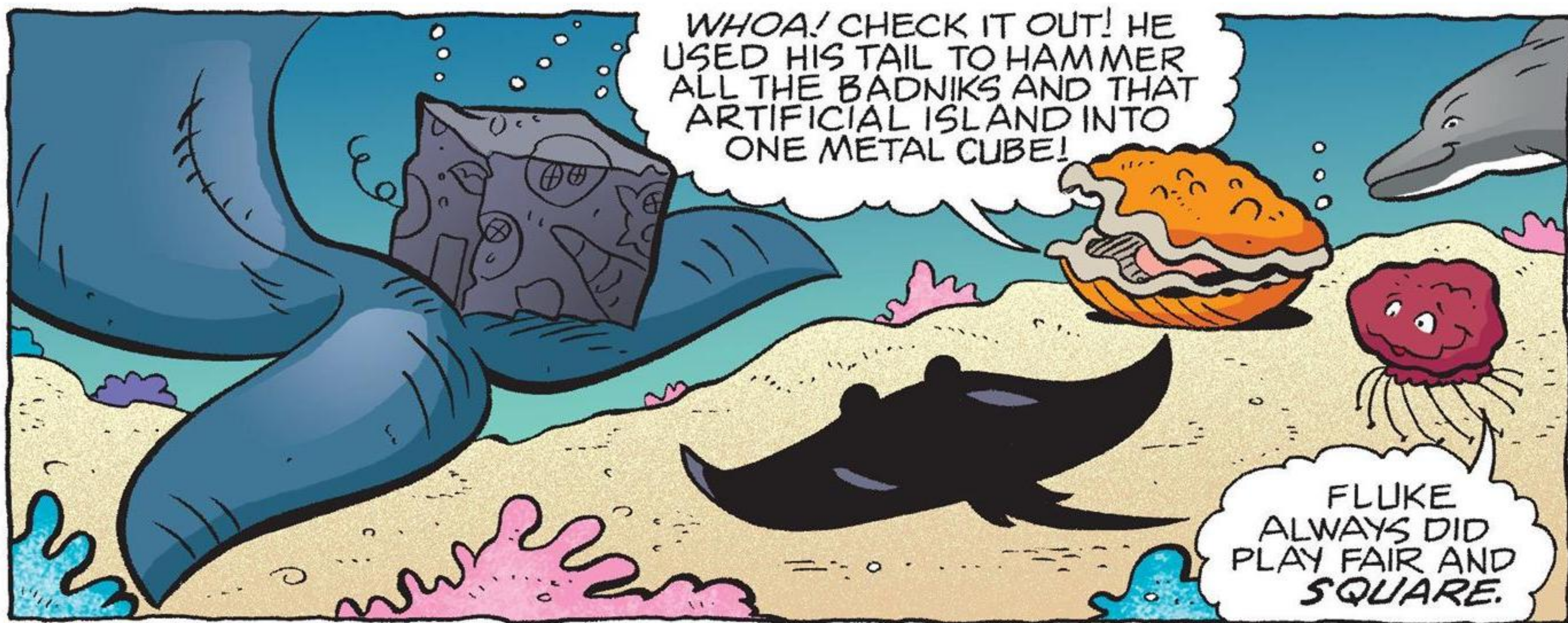
A cartoon illustration of Sonic the Hedgehog as a giant blue whale, swimming in a blue ocean. Tails, also a blue fox, is inside Sonic's mouth, looking happy. The ocean floor is sandy with various sea creatures like a jellyfish, crabs, and a small purple fish. A speech bubble from Sonic says: "OKAY, LET'S CLEAN UP THIS MESS. SWEEP ALL THAT TRASH INTO A PILE... I'VE GOT AN IDEA." There are several question marks floating around the scene, suggesting confusion or a plan in progress.



THUNK!
GRUMPLE!
SKLONK!

FOLD! MASH!
WHIOMP! SQUISH!
COMPRESS!

7



MAKE SURE NOT TO MISS NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE, WHERE MAMMOTH MOGUL'S INTENTIONS ARE REVEALED! KEEP UP ON YOUR SONIC COLLECTION WITH SONIC X AND SONIC ARCHIVES! VOLUMES 1-6 ON SALE NOW! AND KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE ALL-NEW SERIES, SONIC SELECT, FEATURING STORIES FROM THE MUCH-LOVED SONIC SUPER SPECIALS! COMING SOON!

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